

president." Nolan "earlier this year announced he would not seek re-election to the district, giving Republicans a key opportunity to flip the seat." While "four Democrats are headed for an August primary at this point," St. Louis County Commissioner Pete Stauber "is the lone Republican in the 8th District race. He's a retired Duluth police officer who's also served on the Hermantown City Council and in younger years played minor league professional hockey." The Washington Examiner (6/11, Quinn, 340K) indicates, moreover, that "both of Minnesota's senators, Democrats Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith, are on the ballot this November."

The Hill (6/11, Samuels, 2.71M) quotes "Michael Glassner, COO of the Trump campaign," as saying in a statement, "The President will meet with Minnesota patriots to report the latest developments for our surging economy, including record-low unemployment and fair trade reforms, and his historic summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un." The Hill adds that the event "could be viewed as a sign of confidence from Trump on his chances in Minnesota." The President "narrowly lost the state, which has been won by every Democratic candidate for president since 1972."

The St. Paul (MN) Pioneer Press (6/11, Woltman, 453K) notes that "in an emailed statement, Jennifer Carnahan, chairwoman of the Republican Party of Minnesota, said she is excited to welcome the president back to the state." Said Carnahan, "The importance of Minnesota this election cycle – in influencing the balance of power in Washington D.C. for the next two years and ensuring we send the President conservative reinforcements – depends on our ability to Make Minnesota Red. ... We look forward to the momentum and positive energy his visit will bring to Minnesota Republicans and our opportunities this election cycle."

**Trump Hails High Court Ruling Allowing Ohio To Drop Inactive Voters From Rolls.** President Trump took to Twitter yesterday to write, "Just won big Supreme Court decision on Voting! Great News!" Trump was referring to a case involving Ohio, which is receiving widespread print media coverage this morning. The AP (6/11, Sherman) reports that the Supreme Court has ruled that states "can target people who haven't cast ballots in a while in efforts to purge their voting rolls." In a "5-4 vote

that split the conservative and liberal justices, the court rejected arguments in a case from Ohio that the practice violates a federal law intended to increase the ranks of registered voters." The AP adds "Ohio's contested voter purge stems from an inoffensive requirement in federal law that states have to make an effort to keep their voter rolls in good shape by removing people who have moved or died." Ohio "pursues its goal more aggressively than most, relying on two things: voter inactivity over six years encompassing three federal elections and the failure to return a card...asking people to confirm that they have not moved and continue to be eligible to vote."

CNN (6/11, De Vogue, Vazquez, 82.6M) cautions on its website that "at least six other states have similar laws, and the ruling could embolden others to follow suit and enact what critics say are aggressive purges of voter rolls." The Washington Times (6/11, Dinan, 460K), in fact, reports "the ruling is already boosting conservative groups pushing to have other states clean up their voter rolls."

Politico (6/11, Gerstein, 3.51M) calls the ruling "a victory for the Trump administration," and NPR (6/11, Totenberg, Montanaro, 3.55M) noted that "the Obama Justice Department had sided with the lead plaintiff in the case, Larry Harmon, a software engineer from the Akron area," but "once [President] Trump was elected, the DOJ did an about-face and switched positions."

The Los Angeles Times (6/11, Savage, 4.03M) says "the legal dispute played out against a backdrop where two major parties had opposite views. Republicans spoke of 'voter fraud' and election rolls they said were stocked with ineligible and illegal voters, while Democrats complained of "voter suppression" by GOP states which, they said, made it harder for minorities and the poor to cast ballots." To USA Today (6/11, Wolf, 11.4M), along those lines, "the ruling could be a major victory for Republicans, who tend to benefit from lower voter turnout, and a stinging loss for Democrats, who do best in high-turnout elections." That is "because minorities, young people and those with lower incomes are most likely to be disenfranchised by the state's policy." Newsweek (6/11, Goodkind, 2.18M) also reports "a number of civil rights groups argued that the decision would likely aid Republicans but hurt Democrats and voters of color."

The Cleveland Plain Dealer (6/11, Eaton, 1.03M) notes "Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted

called the ruling in the case known as *Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute* 'a victory for election integrity, and a defeat for those who use the federal court system to make election law across the country.'" Husted "is Attorney General Mike DeWine's running mate in this year's governor's race." DeWine said yesterday, "I am pleased that the United States Supreme Court agreed that Ohio was following federal law in maintaining accurate voter rolls. ... I congratulate our attorneys throughout this case for their exceptional work in documenting how this process used by Democrat and Republican secretaries of state is indeed lawful." The *Columbus (OH) Dispatch* (6/11, Torry, Ludlow, 399K) reports Sen. Sherrod Brown, "a former secretary of state, assailed the ruling, saying 'Ohio should be working to make voting easier, not harder. Instead, today's decision empowers Ohio to further strip away the right to vote for thousands of Ohioans, threatening the integrity of our state's election process.'"

CO Roll Call (6/11, Ruger, 117K) reports House Minority Leader Pelosi "called the decision dangerous and 'a grave step backward in our nation's progress to advance a future in which every person can enjoy their full, equal right to be heard at the ballot box.'"

It was, *Reuters* (6/11, Chung) reports, "a ruling powered by the five conservative justices and denounced by liberal Justice Sonia Sotomayor as an endorsement of the disenfranchisement of minority and low-income Americans." The *Columbus (OH) Dispatch* (6/11, Torry, Ludlow, 399K) reports that in his ruling, Justice Alito said Ohio's system "does not violate federal laws approved in 1993 and 2002 by Congress." Wrote Alito, "We have no authority to second-guess Congress or to decide whether (the Ohio's law) is the ideal method for keeping its voting rolls up to date. ... The only question before us is whether it violates federal law. It does not."

Meanwhile, says the *Washington Post* (6/11, Barnes, 15.68M), Sotomayor wrote in her dissent, "Communities that are disproportionately affected by unnecessarily harsh registration laws should not tolerate efforts to marginalize their influence in the political process, nor should allies who recognize blatant unfairness stand idly by." Alito retorted, "Justice Sotomayor's dissent says nothing about what is relevant in this case – namely, the language of the" National Voter Registration Act, and "has not pointed to any

evidence in the record that Ohio instituted or has carried out its program with discriminatory intent."

NPR (6/11, Totenberg, Montanaro, 3.55M) reported "the first line of the opinion lays out evidence for why Alito sees the need to clean up voter rolls." Wrote Alito, "It has been estimated that 24 million voter registrations in the United States – about one in eight – are either invalid or significantly inaccurate," and "about 2.75 million people are said to be registered to vote in more than one State." Alito was referencing "a Pew Center on the States" report, "the same study that incoming Trump White House officials cited – misleadingly – to make the case that voter fraud was occurring and immigrants in the US illegally were voting."

Fox News (6/11, Mears, 16.38M) reports on its website that "Alito, in his opinion, clarified that states could not use the failure to vote as the sole reason for removal from the register." Officials "would be required to show someone had changed their residence, was incarcerated or met other criteria." The *New York Times* (6/11, Liptak, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) indicates, however, that "the central question in the case was whether a failure to vote could be the reason to send out the notice."

*Politico* (6/11, Gerstein, 3.51M) reports that "Stuart Naifeh, senior counsel at Demos, which led the legal team challenging the state's practices," said yesterday that the ruling "threatens the ability of voters to have their voices heard in our elections." The *Wall Street Journal* (6/11, Kendall, Bravin, Subscription Publication, 6.13M), *Washington Examiner* (6/11, Quinn, 340K) and *The Hill* (6/11, Wheeler, 2.71M), among other news outlets, run similar reports on the ruling.

**More Commentary.** The *Washington Post* (6/11, 15.68M) editorializes that "though the court majority determined that" Ohio's approach to purging the voter rolls "is legal, it is not wise," as "states should be encouraging more civic participation, not less." The Post adds that in the US, "political legitimacy flows from popular approval," and "systematically discouraging sections of the populace from voting is cynical and detrimental to the democracy." *USA Today* (6/11, 11.4M) offers similar arguments in an editorial titled "Supreme Court Upholds Ohio's Vote Suppression Scheme."

In an editorial, the *Wall Street Journal* (6/11, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) defends the

ruling, hailing it as a step toward more accurate voter rolls. Pete Hutchison, president of Landmark Legal Foundation, writes in USA Today (6/11, 11.4M) that "the dissenting justices object to the Ohio Legislature's policy decisions," but "the job of judging is to apply the law as written and not to second-guess the people's representatives. Monday's decision is a victory for ballot integrity."

**Trump-Recruited GOP Candidate Frustrated By Trump's "Affinity" For Heitkamp.** The Washington Post (6/11, Sullivan, 15.68M) reports, "President Trump is aggressively campaigning for Republican Senate candidates around the country and belittling their Democratic rivals, with one notable exception – Sen. Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota." The President's "affinity for Heitkamp, who got a shout-out and a handshake at a recent White House bill signing, has frustrated top Republicans who see winning her Democratic seat as crucial to holding onto their fragile 51-to-49 majority." Rep. Kevin Cramer (R-ND), "whom Trump personally recruited to run against Heitkamp," has contacted Chief of Staff Kelly "to appeal for political help" and has "traded warning shots with Trump's legislative affairs director, Marc Short."

**Obama Meeting With Potential 2020 Democratic Presidential Candidates.** CNN (6/11, Merica, 82.6M) reports on its website, "Barack Obama has met with several Democrats considering running for president in 2020, a Democrat close to the former president tells CNN, offering them advice on running in the Trump era and discussing how to position the party going forward." CNN adds that "to date, according to the Democrat, Obama has met with Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders; Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren; former Vice President Joe Biden; former Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick; New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker; former New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu; Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti; South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Peter Buttigieg; former Missouri Secretary of State Jason Kander; and former Attorney General Eric Holder."

Politico (6/11, Dove, 3.51M) says "Obama is concerned about how his own party is responding" to President Trump, "and how it can be best positioned to win in the midterms and in the next presidential cycle to beat back the president and his politics." Obama, adds Politico, "doesn't see himself as the person to come up

with the plan," but "he is eager to be a sounding board and counselor."

**New D'Souza Film Compares Anti-Trump "Resistance" To Democrats' Opposition To Lincoln.** The Hill (6/11, Concha, 2.71M) reports "conservative filmmaker Dinesh D'Souza, who was recently pardoned by President Trump, is making comparisons for his next film between the Democratic resistance to Trump and how Democrats didn't accept President Lincoln's reelection during the Civil War." The Twitter "account for D'Souza's next film, 'Death of a Nation,'" stated yesterday, "Not since 1865 have #Democrats so dramatically refused to accept the outcome of a presidential election." D'Souza also weighed in on Twitter, asking, "Lincoln united his party and saved America from the Democrats for the first time. Can Trump – and we – come together and save America for the second time?"

**Trump Highlights Good Economic News.** In a tweet Monday afternoon, Trump touted his economic record, writing, "Stock Market up almost 40% since the Election, with 7 Trillion Dollars of U.S. value built throughout the economy. Lowest unemployment rate in many decades, with Black & Hispanic unemployment lowest in History, and Female unemployment lowest in 21 years. Highest confidence ever!"

**Stocks Rise Slightly.** Trump's tweet came on a day that stocks posted slight gains. Reuters (6/11, Brown) reports that the Dow climbed 5.78 points to 25,322.31, the S&P 500 added 2.97 points to close at 2,782, and the Nasdaq ended the day 14.41 points higher at 7,659.93.

**Fed weighs Historically Low Unemployment In Considering Rate Decision.** The Wall Street Journal (6/11, Timiraos, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports that as the Federal Reserve prepares to announce whether it will raise the benchmark short-term interest rate on Wednesday, it is considering how far unemployment may fall without stoking inflation. The Journal adds that the US unemployment rate has only hit its current level of 3.8% twice before in the past 50 years, one of which, in the 1960s, spurred high inflation. The article adds that the Fed is projected to increase its short-term rate to between 1.75% and two percent, adding that Fed Chairman Jerome Powell's view of the near-term future of US

unemployment will drive Fed interest rate decisions.

**Mahe Hopes For Recession So We Can "Get Rid Of Trump."** Writing on Townhall (6/11, 209K), Matt Vespa cites a RealClear Politics report which said that comedian Bill Maher said Friday that he is hoping for a recession so we can "get rid of Trump." On his HBO show Real Time, Maher said, "Can I ask about the economy because this economy is going pretty well? I feel like the bottom has to fall out at some point. And by the way, I'm hoping for it. Because I think one way you get rid of Trump is a crashing economy. So, please, bring on the recession. Sorry if that hurts people, but it's either root for a recession or you lose your democracy."

**Pai: Expiration Of Net Neutrality Means A Return To Clinton-Era Framework.** The Washington Times (6/11, Muñoz, 460K) reports that as net neutrality regulations ended Monday, FCC Chairman Ajit Pai "touted a return to past policies," saying the "new approach is actually more like the policy set in place by former President Bill Clinton." Pai told CBS This Morning, "President Clinton's framework, it served us well from '96 until 2015, and I'm confident going forward." Reuters (6/11, Shepardson) says that while the net neutrality rules expired Monday, "a court battle remains ahead."

**Pentagon Officials Distance Themselves From LGBT Pride Month Observances.** The Washington Post (6/11, Sonne, 15.68M) reports that for the first time since the practice became routine in the wake of President Obama's repeal of the military's ban on homosexuals serving openly, senior Pentagon officials "are distancing themselves from the Defense Department's annual LGBT Pride Month celebrations." While an official Pentagon memo is typically distributed at the beginning of LGBT Pride Month in June, the absence of the memo this year "has raised questions among service members and Defense Department civilian employees who remain troubled by President Trump's surprise proclamation last July that he would ban transgender individuals from serving in the military."

**Biden Heckled During Book Tour Stop In Delaware.** The Wilmington (DE) News

Journal (6/11, Price, 304K) reports that former Vice President Joe Biden was heckled during a book tour stop in his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware on Sunday. As Biden "was talking about sexual assault," the heckler asked, "What about the girls you molested on C-SPAN at the Senate swearing in?" The taunt drew boos and shouting from the audience, but Biden "quieted the crowd enough to respond: 'This is not Trump world,' which drew a deluge of applause and cheers, even as catcalls and boos aimed at the heckler continued."

**Poll: Scott "Dominating" Nelson Among Florida Voters 50 And Older.** Politico (6/11, Caputo, 3.51M) reports that a forthcoming Politico/AARP poll shows that Gov. Rick Scott "is virtually tied" with Sen. Bill Nelson in the Florida Senate race, and is "dominating" Nelson "by 9 points among those nearing or at retirement age – a group that casts the majority of Florida's votes." Overall, "Scott leads Nelson overall by 40 percent to 39 percent, but Scott's support grows to 44 percent while Nelson's shrinks to 35 percent with those 50 and older."

**McClatchy Analysis: Sanford Fighting For Political Life In SC1 GOP Primary.** McClatchy (6/11, Douglas, Dumain, 81K) reports that Rep. Mark Sanford (R-SC) is fighting for his political life in his Tuesday primary "thanks to his disagreements with President Donald Trump." Recent polling shows Sanford and State Rep. Katie Arrington "in a statistical tie" in SC1.

**In AL2, Rouby Faces Runoff Amid Questions About Her Loyalty To Trump.** The New York Times (6/11, Blinder, Martin, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports that President Trump "has become a one-man litmus test in some of his party's primaries, imperiling incumbents in races where policy issues seem to matter less to voters than personal loyalty to the president." In AL2, Republican voters "face a peculiar choice in a runoff" – Rep. Martha Roby (R-AL), "who condemned Mr. Trump but has since voted nearly in lock step with him," or Bobby Bright, "who was once a Democrat who supported Nancy Pelosi, but now sounds much like the president." That Rouby was "forced into a runoff by questions of personal fealty illustrates the potency of the issue in this year's Republican primaries."

## **Democrats Consulting With Hollywood Ahead Of Midterms.** Politico

(6/11, Siders, 3.51M) reports that the DNC and Democratic lawmakers are "quietly consulting" with Hollywood actors, writers, and producers for "help with voter turnout and messaging ahead of the midterm elections and 2020 presidential campaign." DNC Chairman Tom Perez, several House members, and others have met with a group "formed by members of the entertainment industry in the wake of the 2016 election," to discuss "targeted voter-registration programs with visiting Democrats, as well as the party's framing of issues ranging from abortion rights to gun control."

**AP Analysis: Democratic House Candidates Pushing Liberal Messages.** The AP (6/11, Barrow, Beaumont) reports that Democrats' midterm House candidates are "shaping up to test what liberal messages the party can sell to the moderate and GOP-leaning voters who will help determine control of the House after the November election." According to the AP, "the crop of nominees is trending more liberal than many of the 'Blue Dog' Democrats swept away in Republicans' 2010 midterm romp." As a result, "voters now represented by a Republican will be asked to consider some or all of the mainstream Democratic priorities that may have been considered 'too liberal' in the past: more government involvement in health insurance, tighter gun laws, a path to citizenship for people in the country illegally, reversing parts of the GOP tax law, support for LGBTQ rights." The question is whether that will result in "Democrats gaining the 23 new seats they need for a majority."

## **Democrats Hope Anti-Trump Sentiment Will Help Unseat Comstock.**

The Washington Times (6/11, Sherfinski, 460K) reports that Democrats "are counting on an anti-Trump backlash, a desire to overturn the Republican-led Congress and a surge of interest in gun control to unseat suburban Republicans" like Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-VA) in VA10. But Comstock "said she has been a top target in her past two elections yet emerged with a 16-percentage-point victory in 2014 and won re-election by 6 points in 2016, even as Hillary Clinton carried the district by close to double digits." Comstock "is highlighting her vote for Republican tax cuts and her work combating

violent gangs in the region as she tries to shore up the pro-Trump elements of her party."

## **Female Gubernatorial Candidates Say They Face Resistance To Female Executive Power.**

The New York Times (6/11, Martin, Burns, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports that while women "have emerged as the animating force behind the backlash to President Trump, with many storming to victory in congressional primaries, several are finding governor's races to be more challenging as they struggle to build as much political and financial support as their male rivals." From today through September, "female candidates for governor will be on the ballot in Democratic primaries across 17 states, including pivotal battlegrounds such as Florida, Wisconsin and Colorado," but "several said they are facing entrenched resistance to female power at the executive level, and male opponents with deeper campaign coffers and, in some cases, far less political experience."

## **Bill Clinton: Norms Of "What You Can Do To Someone Against Her Will" Have Changed.**

The Daily Caller (6/11, Athey, 420K) reports that in an interview with PBS on Friday, former President Bill Clinton "made a disturbing statement about sexual consent." Asked about the resignation of Sen. Al Franken and what that says about changing norms, Clinton said, "I think it's a good thing that we should all have higher standards," Clinton said. "I think the norms have really changed in terms of, what you can do to somebody against their will, how much you can crowd their space, make them miserable at work."

USA Today (6/11, Cummings, 11.4M) reports that Clinton "said that Franken was 'a difficult case' for him because while there may be facts he doesn't know about the allegations, many of Franken's past female colleagues came to his defense." Clinton said, "Maybe I'm just an old-fashioned person... but it seemed to me that there were 29 women on 'Saturday Night Live' that put out a statement for him, and that the first and most fantastic story was called, I believe, into question." Referring to Franken's resignation, he added that it is "a grievous thing to take away from the people a decision they have made. ... But it's done now."

**Poll: 53% See Clinton As A Sexual Predator.** Katie Pavlich writes on Townhall (6/11, 209K) that the latest Rasmussen Reports poll



found that "just 24% of Likely U.S. Voters consider Clinton a victim of his political opponents. Fifty-three percent (53%) describe the ex-president as a sexual predator instead. Another 24% are undecided."

### **Broadway Veterans, Trump Critics Struggle With De Niro's Tony Comments.**

The Washington Post (6/11, Zeitichik, 15.68M) reports that actor Robert De Niro's speech at the Tony Awards, in which he said, "F---Trump. ... It's no longer down with Trump...but F--- Trump," made "a Broadway extravaganza and a beloved American actor...a lighting-rod referendum on Trumpism." The Post adds that at a post-ceremony parties, "the Trump moment was on many Broadway veterans' minds. They just couldn't figure out what to make of it or whether what he did was a good thing."

The Washington Times (6/11, Chasmar, 460K) reports that MSNBC host Joe Scarborough said De Niro and those who applauded his comments are unwittingly aiding the President's re-election. Scarborough said, "If people that applauded De Niro's statement last night don't understand that they are helping Donald Trump's re-election every time they do something like that, they don't understand."

### **Twitter CEO Draws Fire For Chick-Fil-A Post During Pride Month.**

USA Today (6/11, Carrig, 11.4M) reports that Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey apologized after a tweet in which he said he ordered food from Chick-fil-A drew criticism on social media. Dorsey was criticized "for supporting Chick-fil-A during" June, which is LGBTQ Pride Month. In 2012, Chick-fil-A "came under fire from gay rights supporters...because of comments made by the fast food chicken chain's CEO, Dan Cathy, expressing opposition to same-sex marriage" and the company's donations to anti-gay groups. Amid the backlash from his original tweet, Dorsey wrote, "You're right. Completely forgot about their background."

Under the headline "Jack Dorsey Chickens Out," a Wall Street Journal (6/11, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) editorial takes issue with the criticism of Dorsey and argues the Chick-fil-A restaurants serves everyone and Cathy was expressing his personal beliefs when he voiced opposition to gay marriage.

**Rubio Defends Chick-Fil-A.** The Washington Times (6/11, Richardson, 460K)

reports that Sen. Marco Rubio "stood up for Chick-fil-A" in a series of tweets. Rubio "questioned the prudence of boycotting a company for holding a mainstream Christian view on marriage." He wrote, "This lunacy has gone too far. The CEO of @Twitter bullied into apology for patronizing @ChickfilA because owners support 'biblical definition of marriage. Holding a personal view taught by mainstream Christianity is now boycott worthy." Rubio followed that with another, saying, "@ChickfilA isn't denying service to anyone. But if you eat there you must be attacked by the twitter mob b/c owner agrees with what his church teaches about marriage? Why would twitter mob stop at biz owned by Christians? Who is next? Christian schools? Christian charities?" In a final tweet, Rubio wrote, "The message from latest @ChickfilA incident is this: 'Your church can still teach traditional marriage (which by the way we will still label as a bigoted belief) but don't you dare repeat it outside of church or we will come after you, your business and/or your job.'"

## **EDITORIAL WRAP-UP**

**New York Times.** "*The Healthcare Stalkers.*" The New York Times (6/11, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) similarly argues in an editorial that Democrats who hope "to make health care a centerpiece of midterm election campaigns just got a gift from the Trump administration," as the Justice Department has "declined to defend the Affordable Care Act against a lawsuit filed by 20 Republican-led states," and is "arguing for the repeal of enormously popular consumer protections, including coverage of pre-existing conditions."

**"America Isolated."** The New York Times (6/11, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) writes on its editorial page that last weekend's G7 summit was "a confirmation that so long as Mr. Trump is in the White House, and maybe beyond that, something fundamental in the community of Western democracies will be missing. America, the leader of the free world and the architect of so much of the modern world order, had decided to go its own way." The Times argues that "it's past time to recognize that this president has transformed 'America First' into 'America Alone,' and that this is the last place a great and powerful nation wants to be."

**Washington Post.** *"Why Are Republicans So Determined To Discourage People From Voting?"* The Washington Post (6/11, 15.68M) editorializes that "though the [Supreme Court] majority determined that" Ohio's approach to purging the voter rolls "is legal, it is not wise," as "states should be encouraging more civic participation, not less." The Post adds that in the US, "political legitimacy flows from popular approval," and "systematically discouraging sections of the populace from voting is cynical and detrimental to the democracy."

***"Canada Has Every Right To Be Insulted."***

The Washington Post editorializes that Canada "has every right to be insulted that Mr. Trump would invoke national security in their trade dispute. Canada has stood with the United States in every modern war and crisis. There is no doubt that the United States could rely on Canadian steel and aluminum if another crisis developed, obviating the stated rationale for imposing the tariffs." Trump's "trade offensive," it argues, "is an insult."

**Wall Street Journal.** *"The Autumn Of Obamacare."* A Wall Street Journal (6/11, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) editorial says that while Democrats are blaming Republicans for double-digit healthcare premium increases, the problem is the structure of the ACA. As the election approaches, the Journal adds, Republicans will have to refute the Democrats' false claims.

***"Jack Dorsey Chickens Out."*** A Wall Street Journal (6/11, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) editorial takes issue with criticism of Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey over a tweet in which he said he ordered food from Chick-fil-A. The Journal argues the Chick-fil-A restaurants serves everyone and that Chick-fil-A CEO Dan Cathy was expressing his personal beliefs when he voiced opposition to gay marriage.

***"A Victory For Voting Law."*** In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (6/11, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) defends the Supreme Court ruling on states purging voter rolls, hailing it as a step toward more accurate voter rolls.

## **THE BIG PICTURE**

**Headlines From Today's Front Pages.**

### **WALL STREET JOURNAL:**

Trump Greeted Kim To Kick Off Summit  
The Fed's Biggest Dilemma: Is The Booming Job Market A Problem?  
Stryker Makes Takeover Approach To Boston Scientific  
Buyer Beware When A Stock Joins The S&P 500

### **NEW YORK TIMES:**

Trump, After Talks With Kim, Says Denuclearization Will Begin 'Quickly'  
Sessions Says Domestic And Gang Violence Are Not Grounds For Asylum  
Supreme Court Upholds Ohio's Purge Of Voting Rolls  
New York City Housing Authority, Accused Of Endangering Residents, Agrees To Oversight  
Democratic Women Are Running For Governor. Men And Money Stand In Their Way.  
The Nine Steps Required To Really Disarm North Korea

### **WASHINGTON POST:**

Trump And North Korea's Kim Meet For Historic Summit  
Justices Uphold Ohio's System For Purging Rolls Of Nonvoters  
President Increasingly Relies On Unilateral Action To Wield Power  
Smiles And Handshakes Could Mask Divide Over Nuclear Arms  
Is MS-13 Overtaking A Middle School In MD.?

### **FINANCIAL TIMES:**

Citi Issues Stark Warning On Automation Of Bank Jobs  
Martin Sorrell's Downfall: Why The Ad King Left WPP  
Duque Readies To Become Colombia's Youngest President  
Spain To Take In 629 Migrants Stranded At Sea After Italy Refuses

### **WASHINGTON TIMES:**

Trump, Kim Jong-Un Sign Document, Pledge To Work Together For Peace  
Jeff Sessions Sets Higher Bar For Asylum Claims  
USS Pueblo Still Held Hostage By North Korea As Trump, Kim Meet  
Va. Democrats Banking On Anti-Trump Backlash In Bid To Unseat Rep. Barbara Comstock  
Redskins Replacement Players From 1987 To Get Super Bowl Rings

Murky U.S. Drone-Strike Policy Threatens To Backfire As Other Nations Acquire Technology

## **STORY LINEUP FROM LAST NIGHT'S NETWORK NEWS:**

**ABC:** US-North Korea Relations-Summit; US-North Korea Relations-Kim-Jong-Un Insights; US-North Korea Relations-Korean Peninsula; Trump-G7 Allies Relations; Severe Weather; Trump-Immigration; Orlando-Hostage Situation; Washington State-Cabin Explosion; United Airlines-Security Threat; Anthony Bourdain-Suicide; US-North Korea Relations-Kim Jong-Un Out Late.

**CBS:** US-North Korea Relations-Summit; Trump-G7 Allies Relations; US-North Korea Relations-Kim-Jong-Un Insights; US-North Korea Relations-Denuclearization; US-North Korea Relations-Trump's Deal Making; Colorado-Wildfires; Orlando-Hostage Situation; Anthony Bourdain-Suicide; North Korea Defector.

**NBC:** US-North Korea Relations-Summit; US-North Korea Relations-Kim-Jong-Un Insights; US-North Korea Relations-Singapore; US-North Korea Relations-South Korea; Trump-G7 Allies Relations; Trump-Immigration; Missing US Official Found; Orlando-Hostage Situation; Colorado-Wildfires; Ohio-Explosion Investigation; US-North Korea Relations-Reactions.

## **NETWORK TV AT A GLANCE:**

US-North Korea Relations-Summit – 13 minutes, 15 seconds

US-North Korea Relations-Kim-Jong-Un Insights – 11 minutes, 0 seconds

Trump-G7 Allies Relations – 6 minutes, 5 seconds

Orlando-Hostage Situation – 2 minutes, 50 seconds

## **STORY LINEUP FROM THIS MORNING'S RADIO NEWS BROADCASTS:**

**ABC:** US-North Korea Relations-Summit; US-North Korea Relations-Summit-Reactions; Orlando-Hostage Situation; Trump-Immigration.

**CBS:** US-North Korea Relations-Summit; WH-Kudlow Heart Attack; Trump-Immigration; Immigration-Cheating For Green Cards; Crash Test Results; Wall Street.

**FOX:** US-North Korea Relations-Summit; WH-Kudlow Heart Attack; Supreme Court-Ohio Voter Ruling.

**NPR:** US-North Korea Relations-Summit; US-North Korea Relations-Choreographed Hand Shake; WH-Kudlow Heart Attack; WH-Treasury-

Sanctions Against Russian Businesses; Trump-Immigration.

## **LAST LAUGHS**

### **Late Night Political Humor.**

**Jimmy Kimmel:** "When he left the G7, Trump said his relationship with the other leaders was a 10. He rated it a 10. And then a few hours later, I guess he didn't like the idea that the Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau didn't do as he was told, and so Trump tweeted, 'PM Justin Trudeau of Canada acted so meek and mild during our G7 meetings, only to give a news conference after I left saying that US tariffs were kind of insulting and he will not be pushed around. Very dishonest and weak. Our tariffs are in response to his of 270 percent on dairy.' Bearing in mind that first of all, our dairy trade with Canada – it's only about \$600 million a year, which is about what it costs for him to play golf every week."

**Jimmy Kimmel:** "And he justified these new tariffs in the first place by saying our national security was at stake. Now he's saying it's because of dairy. How does Canadian dairy threaten our national security? Are they planning to churn us to death? Are they going to drop cheese curds on us and turn us into poutine?"

**Jimmy Kimmel:** "And who has a problem with Canada? No one has a problem with Canada. It's like picking a fight with Nilla Wafers. No one does it. It's ridiculous."

**Jimmy Kimmel:** "Trump also threatened to cut off all trade with the other six nations at the summit. All our closest allies. We would not trade with them anymore. German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she found his actions at the summit to be sobering and depressing. And when a German finds you to be sobering and depressing – bad news. This is the country that gave us Hitler and David Hasselhoff."

**Stephen Colbert:** "Folks, it is an historic evening because, as we speak, President Trump is meeting with North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un, a scenario that, just a few years ago, would have been unthinkable because it includes the phrase 'President Trump.'"

**Stephen Colbert:** "So tensions are high. The



United States is on the precipice of unthinkable international conflict, and that's with Canada."

**Stephen Colbert:** "If you're one of those nerds who values the Western alliance that has safeguarded democracy for 70 years, it was a tough weekend for you because Canada hosted the G7, and it did not go 'the good.' Keep in mind, the G7 are our trading partners, and right before he attended, Donald Trump declared protectionist trade tariffs against all of them. That's like showing up to an AA meeting with Captain Morgan."

**James Corden:** "Tomorrow is the big summit meeting between President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un. Trump spent the day preparing for the summit, which basically means he wrote on his hands, 'South Korea good, North Korea bad,' so he doesn't get confused."

**James Corden:** "When asked by reporters how he will know if North Korean leader Kim Jong-un is serious about a peace treaty, President Trump said he will use his 'touch and feel.' This may not be a great plan. The last time Trump used his 'touch and feel' method, he had to pay Stormy Daniels \$130,000."

**James Corden:** "Honestly, it may work. After three minutes of being touched and felt by Trump, Kim Jong-un is just going to shout, 'Fine, take the nukes! Just stop touching me!'"

**Jimmy Fallon:** "Tonight in Singapore, Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un finally came face to face. Or in Kim's case, more like face to belly button."

**Jimmy Fallon:** "There's a lot riding on this meeting. Last night, Kim spent hours preparing, while at the same time, Trump was in bed waiting for 'Spongebob' to perform on the Tonys."

**Seth Meyers:** "President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un met tonight in Singapore after we taped our show. So if you're watching this on TV right now, either it went well, or you have a TV in your fallout shelter."

**Seth Meyers:** "Dennis Rodman arrived in Singapore today for the summit with Kim Jong-un. So at least if Kim launches a nuclear missile, Rodman will be there to grab the rebound."

**Conan O'Brien:** "This past weekend, President Trump told reporters he'll know if the Kim Jong-un

meeting is going well by 'touch and feel.' That's what he said. In other words, Trump's lawyer is going to have to pay Kim Jong-un \$130,000."

**Conan O'Brien:** "North Korean leader Kim Jong-un brought his own toilet to the summit in Singapore. When he saw the toilet, President Trump said, 'Oh, so you're planning to tweet, too.'"

**Conan O'Brien:** "President Trump said that during the North Korea summit, he will not focus on human rights abuses. Trump said, 'My marriage is no one's business.'"

**Trevor Noah:** "White House staffers have reportedly been taping pieces of paper back together after President Trump rips them up. They need to tape them back together to comply with the Presidential Records Act. According to Politico, the papers include letters and official documents required by law to be preserved and sent to the National Archives. ... President Trump's tearing up official documents? I mean, let's not act surprised. After all, he spent the last year tearing up the Constitution."

**Trevor Noah:** "I don't know why Trump rips up all his paper. My guess is to show off how strong he is. 'Would an unhealthy President be able to do this?!'"

**Trevor Noah:** Trump said "he wants Russia to be welcomed back into the G8. I don't know if Trump colluded with Russia, but if everyone was accusing me of colluding with Russia, I wouldn't be caught dead mentioning their name. If your girlfriend accused you of cheating with Keisha, even if you didn't do it, shut up about Keisha, just shut up."

**Trevor Noah:** "Trump went into the G7 for a run-of-the-mill check-in with America's allies and came out full-on beefing with Canada, the Ned Flanders of countries."

**Trevor Noah:** "Emmanuel Macron called Trump incoherent, and Angela Merkel said it is sobering and depressing. She is German, so everything is sobering and depressing to her. She was at breakfast saying, 'I find this pancake both sobering and depressing.'"

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## HHS NEWS BRIEFING

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**TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF**

**DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2018 7:30 AM EDT**

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## **LEADING THE NEWS**

**Administration Says It Has Devised A Plan To Reunite Some 2,000 Separated Children With Parents.** The Washington Post (6/24, Miroff, Sacchetti, 15.68M) reports that late Saturday, the Trump Administration indicated "it is taking steps to reunify hundreds of Central American parents separated from their children during the recent border crackdown, with plans to then deport them from a remote detention facility in South Texas." The Administration said it has in its custody 2,053 children who were separated from their parents,

and that it has already released 522 immigrant children to family members. The government stated, "The United States government knows the location of all children in its custody and is working to reunite them with their families. ... This process is well coordinated." The article adds that on Sunday, an Administration official said "the number of children returned to their families to date may be 'slightly higher' than 522 because the Department of Health and Human Services has released some minors to the custody of other sponsors, typically close relatives."

The CBS Weekend News (6/24, lead story, 2:40, Quijano, 5.32M) reported in its lead story, "Officials said Saturday night more than 2,000



separated minors remained in government facilities. ... But it's not known how long the process to reunite families will take."

The New York Times (6/24, Jett, Zaveri, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports that the Administration's "efforts to match separated migrant children with their guardians face considerable obstacles." In addition, "the process of reuniting families as well as the indefinite detention they face once they're back together could have psychological consequences for parents and children alike, experts said." The article says government workers, "some of whom were conflicted about Mr. Trump's policy, have been working overtime in an effort to reunite the thousands of children and parents who were separated at the border over a period of several weeks this spring." The piece mentions that HHS' Office of Refugee Resettlement "has a toll-free number set up for parents looking for their children."

ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 6, 2:15, Johnson, 14.63M) reported that "there's chaos at the border" as the Trump Administration is "releasing a plan to reunite the migrant families."

The CBS Weekend News (6/24, story 2, 1:05, Quijano, 5.32M) reported, "We have also learned that Immigration And Customs Enforcement have dedicated the Port Isabel detention center as the primary family reunification center for adults in their custody."

On its front page, the Wall Street Journal (6/24, A1, Radnofsky, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports Administration officials indicated that they want to deport reunited families, not keep them in the US. The article says HHS has been caring for the children who were separated from their parents as a result of the Administration's zero tolerance policy, as well as for unaccompanied immigrant teens. The department has more than 2,000 of the former, and about 10,000 of the latter.

The AP (6/24, Long) reports that the Department of Homeland Security and other departments unveiled a "zero-tolerance prosecution and family reunification" fact sheet on Saturday. The fact sheet does not indicate how long it may take to reunite families, but it does say parents must ask that their children be deported with them. The article adds that precisely how the Administration "would reunite families has been unclear because the families are first stopped by Customs and Border Patrol, with children taken

into custody by HHS and adults detained through Immigration and Customs Enforcement."

Reuters (6/24, Torbati) reports that the Administration released the information about its plan following "criticism from lawyers for parents and children who have said they have seen little evidence of an organized system." The article adds that the fact sheet says "children are given the chance to speak with a 'vetted parent, guardian or relative' within 24 hours of arriving at a facility run by Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)."

The Los Angeles Times (6/24, King, 4.03M) reports that Democrats "responded skeptically Sunday to the Trump administration's assertion that it has a process in place to reunite more than 2,000 'separated minors' with their parents."

In a separate article, the Washington Post (6/24, Sacchetti, Miller, Moore, 15.68M) reports Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) said, "It's clear" that "they're not running a reunification process here."

Also covering the story were NBC Nightly News (6/24, story 2, 2:00, Snow, 8.26M), CNN (6/23, Kopan, 82.6M), the Los Angeles Times (6/23, Dolan, 4.03M), NBC News, (6/24, Gambos, 5.76M) NPR (6/24, Van Sant, 3.55M), Boston Globe (6/24, Goodwin, 945K), the Arizona Republic (6/23, Nájuez, Wang, 1.21M), the New York Post (6/24, Moore, 4.46M), and Vox (6/23, Kirby, 1.66M).

**HHS Establishes Task Force To Reunite Separated Immigrant Families.** HHS has established an "unaccompanied children reunification task force," a first step toward reunifying thousands of migrant children in the agency's custody with their families, according to an internal document obtained by Politico (6/22, Diamond, 3.51M), which added that "the task force was established by the assistant secretary for preparedness and response – the arm of the agency that responds to public health disasters, and an indication that the challenge of reunifying thousands of families is likely beyond the capabilities of the refugee office." The order read, "The Secretary of Health and Human Services has directed the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response assist the ACF Office of Refugee Resettlement with Unaccompanied Children Reunification." HHS spokesperson Evelyn Stauffer said HHS Secretary Alex Azar "is bringing to bear all the relevant resources of the department in order to

assist in the reunification or placement of unaccompanied alien children and teenagers with a parent or appropriate sponsor."

In the NBC Nightly News (6/22, lead story, 2:35, Holt, 6.6M) lead segment, Gabe Gutierrez reported HHS has "a network of about 100 shelters...in 17 states" and "says the average stay of a child at its shelters is 57 days." According to HHS spokesman Mark Weber, "We are working as fast as we possibly can to find safe homes for these children."

Although the AP (6/22, Merchant, Bryan, Long) reported that a senior Administration official on Thursday said "about 500 of the more than 2,300 children separated from their families at the U.S.-Mexico border have been reunited since May," and Mireya Villarreal reported on the lead CBS Evening News (6/22, lead story, 2:35, Glor, 5.03M) segment that a senior Administration official announced "the rest of the 1,800 that still remain separated will be reunited by Sunday," the Los Angeles Times (6/22, Ulloa, 4.03M) said federal officials nonetheless warned on Friday that "the process of reunifying families who have been separated at the border could take months."

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/22, Hals) reported that US District Court Judge Dana Sabraw "said on Friday he could rule as soon as the middle of next week on a request to order the U.S. government to reunite thousands of immigrant children who were separated from their parents after illegally crossing the Mexico-U.S. border." The article added that Sabraw "peppered a government lawyer with questions," but he "declined to rule at the hearing without further briefing and suggested the ACLU provide details for procedures for reuniting parents and children." Politico (6/22, Gerstein, 3.51M) reported that Sabraw said, "What's happened in this case is unusual in that the case has developed in the media." He added that if he issues an injunction, "there has to be some evidentiary basis for it other than newspaper and television and radio accounts."

However, on ABC's Good Morning America (6/22, 4.2M), David Muir reported that "some of the first of the parents and children [are] reuniting after being separated at the border, but there's still so many at more than a dozen shelters around the country, including babies and young children." Jon Karl added that "for most of the children taken away from their parents because of President Trump's 'zero tolerance' policy, it is unclear...how or when they'll be reunited with their families."

On CBS This Morning (6/22, 2.91M), David Begnaud reported from McAllen, Texas that, in regards to the 2,000 children separated from their families, the key question now is "how and when are they going to be reunited?" At the opening of CNN's New Day (6/22, 424K), Alisyn Camerota said, "There's so much confusion this morning, particularly for the parents of these kids, and heartbreak. Can you imagine not knowing at this hour where your child is, what state, what condition that child is in? It's two days since President Trump signed the order halting those family separations, but children are still not reunited with their parents, and those parents don't know where their kids are."

USA Today (6/22, Hughes, 11.4M) similarly said the executive order "sowed more confusion into what was already a complicated system of law enforcement, courts, warehouse-like detention buildings and re-purposed daycare centers," while AFP (6/22, Macor, Handley, Handley) added that "the fate of 2,300 children wrested from their parents at the US border with Mexico remained unclear Friday" as "conflicting messages were contributing to a sense of chaos in the handling of the crisis."

On MSNBC's Morning Joe (6/22, 1.02M), Mika Brzezinski said in the that wake of Trump's executive order, "now we have...chaos," and "the mystery behind where some of these children are. Where some of these babies are. Where the girls are. Who's with them. What's happening to them? Will some never see their parents again? I think there's some distinct possibilities that that's possible. They may never see their families again."

The Chicago Tribune (6/22, Briscoe, 2.37M) reported that the Heartland Alliance, a Chicago nonprofit, "said Friday it is housing 66 [im]migrant children who have been separated from their parents in the past six weeks," and "after days of staying out of the political controversy surrounding...Trump's immigration policy, Heartland officials directly condemned the practice of separating children from their parents at the United States' southern border while asking for support from the community while they look after the minors in their care." Heartland Alliance President Evelyn Diaz warned that reuniting the children with their families is "like [going] on a scavenger hunt."

The AP (6/22, Fox) and Miami Herald (6/22, Sweet, Medina, 1.07M) described a visit to the

Homestead Temporary Shelter for Unaccompanied Children. The Herald said that the facility is "under such tight control that Sen. Bill Nelson, Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz and other government officials were turned away on Tuesday," but "Friday's guided, one-hour tour seemed to be an attempt to dispel this idea." The Herald added that "cellphones and audio or video recording equipment were prohibited," and HHS spokesman Mark Weber said that this policy is a matter of protecting the privacy of minors in the shelters.

Also covering the story were an ABC World News Tonight (6/22, story 2, 3:10, Muir, 7.47M) segment, the Wall Street Journal (6/22, Calvert, Levitz, Subscription Publication, 6.13M), the AP, (6/24, Thomas, Superville) the Washington Post (6/21, Hsu, 15.68M), The Hill (6/22, Bowden, 2.71M), Newsweek (6/23, Zhao, 2.18M), the Boston Globe (6/22, Johnson, 945K), AFP (6/23), the Daily Caller (6/23, Cohen, 420K), and Axios (6/22, Britzky, 2.49M).

***Trump Says Undocumented Immigrants Should Not Be Allowed Due-Process Rights.***

In a front-page article, the Washington Post (6/24, A1, Rucker, Weigel, 15.68M) reports that on Sunday, President Trump "explicitly advocated depriving undocumented immigrants of their due-process rights, arguing that people who cross the border into the United States illegally must immediately be deported without trial – and sowing more confusion among Republicans ahead of a planned immigration vote this week." He tweeted, "We cannot allow all of these people to invade our Country," adding, "When somebody comes in, we must immediately, with no Judges or Court Cases, bring them back from where they came. Our system is a mockery to good immigration policy and Law and Order. Most children come without parents."

NBC Nightly News (6/24, lead story, 2:40, Snow, 8.26M) reported in its lead story, "Since the day he announced his candidacy, President Trump promised a tough line on immigration and border security," and "this morning on Twitter, he took it to a new level" by "deriding current US immigration policy as, quote, laughed at all over the world. And calling for people who enter the US illegally to be immediately sent back without seeing a judge." The segment adds, "The President's edict fails to recognize constitutional due process" and "long established case law that grants that protection to non-citizens."

USA Today (6/24, Bacon, 11.4M) reports Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) responded to the comments, saying, "That's not what our country stands for. ... We do have a system of laws."

On its front page, the New York Times (6/24, A1, Rogers, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports that the president's "aggressive attack" was "another twist in a head-spinning series of developments on immigration since the administration announced a 'zero tolerance' policy two months ago."

Bloomberg News (6/24, Epstein, 4.46M) reports that this "stepped-up rhetoric came after the administration announced a series of steps to reunite families that had been separated at the border under a now-abandoned policy, and drew a sharp retort from the American Civil Liberties Union." Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU's Immigrants Rights Project, stated, "What President Trump has suggested here is both illegal and unconstitutional. ... Any official who has sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution and laws should disavow it unequivocally." On Sunday, Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-IL) said Trump's "choice of words was being used to gin up his supporters for the mid-terms."

Reuters (6/24, Chiacu, Lynch) reports that since the President backed away from his policy of separating immigrant children from their parents, he "has redoubled his criticism of U.S. immigration laws on Twitter and in speeches where he likened illegal immigrants to invaders trying to 'break into' the country."

The Newark (NJ) Star-Ledger (6/24, Salant, 1.58M) reports Sen. Angus King (I-ME) made the point on NBC's "Meet the Press" that "people coming to claim asylum are not illegal immigrants," rather, "under the law, they have a right to establish their claim of asylum, that they're in a legitimate fear for their life, that they're fleeing persecution in their home country."

Also covering the story are the AP (6/24), another article in the AP (6/24, Superville), NBC News (6/24, Silva, 5.76M), Politico (6/24, Griffiths, 3.51M), The Hill (6/24, Thomsen, 2.71M), the Miami Herald (6/24, Madan, 1.07M), TIME (6/24, Abramson, 19.27M), and the Washington Examiner (6/24, Williams, 340K).

***GOP Leaders Worried Trump's Tweets Will Derail Efforts To Pass Immigration Bill.***

The AP (6/24, Fram) reports that Republican apprehension over President Trump's "next tweet and fear of riling conservative voters are

undermining GOP leaders' election-year struggle to shove an immigration bill through the House this week, leaving their prospects dubious." Republican leaders are "trying to finally secure the votes they need for their wide-ranging bill with tweaks they hope will goose support from the GOP's dueling conservative and moderate wings. But more importantly, wavering Republicans want Trump to provide political cover for immigration legislation that's despised by hard-right voters."

ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 3, 1:15, Johnson, 14.63M) reported, "Republican lawmakers, set to vote on immigration reform bills this week that will fail to pass without Democratic support, [are] asking the President to cool his tough talk."

***Lawmaker Says Trump Is "100 Percent" Behind House Immigration Measure.*** USA Today (6/24, Kelly, 11.4M) reports House Homeland Security Chairman Michael McCaul (R-TX) said Sunday that President Trump remains "100 percent" behind a compromise House immigration bill, "despite Trump saying last week that Congress should give up its legislative efforts until after the election in November." The article says McCaul and House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) are pushing "a bill that would provide a pathway to citizenship for about 1.8 million young immigrants brought to the USA as children, provide about \$23 billion for a border wall and place limits on legal immigration." In addition, the measure "would allow children and their parents to remain together at detention centers if they're caught crossing the border illegally." The piece adds that if the bill does not pass, "the House will probably take up a narrow measure that would stop federal officials from separating children from their parents."

The CBS Weekend News (6/24, story 3, 2:10, Quijano, 5.32M) reported, "With support from President Trump, Republican Congressman Michael McCaul plans to put his so called Consensus Immigration Bill up for vote in the House soon." The segment added, "Its chances of passing, though, are slim."

ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 5, 0:30, Johnson, 14.63M) reported, "There's a vote on a compromise bill Tuesday, but that bill is unlikely to pass." Tara Palmieri added, "Sources are telling me Republicans are working on a more narrow bill that will cancel the 20-day cap on detention for children so they can stay with their parents. But

even that bill is unlikely to get much support from Democrats."

The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Hughes, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports that if the bill fails to pass, it will highlight the lack of consensus among Republicans on how to handle immigration.

Bloomberg News (6/22, House, Edgerton, Dopp, 4.46M), The Hill (6/24, Mitchell, 2.71M), and Politico (6/24, Tamborrino, 3.51M) also cover the story.

***Lankford Says Trump Administration Knows Where Every Separated Immigrant Is Located.*** Politico (6/24, Tamborrino, 3.51M) reports that on NBC's "Meet the Press," Sen. James Lankford (R-OK) was asked "whether the Trump administration had been supplying Congress with specific details on children separated at the border resulting from its 'zero tolerance' effort, Lankford told Todd the administration knew where every child was located." He stated, "Let me clarify this. ... We know where every single child is." Lankford added, "These are career professionals that work with HHS, and that work with DHS in Customs and Border Patrol and ICE – these are not political appointees. ... These are career folks. They know where every child is, to be able to connect them to their parent or their relative that came."

The Washington Times (6/24, Richardson, 460K) and the Washington Examiner (6/24, Lim, 340K) also cover the story.

***Lawmakers Say Conditions At Texas Shelter Are "Livable," But Express Concern About Reunification Of Immigrant Families.*** Bloomberg News (6/23, Epstein, 4.46M) reported that several lawmakers "visited what's been called a tent city for unaccompanied immigrant children" in Tornillo, Texas on Saturday and described conditions there as being "livable, yet voiced concerns about what's next for them amid confusion about the family reunification process." Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) said that he is "very worried that we're headed from one humanitarian crisis to another," and urged Attorney General Jeff Sessions, HHS Secretary Alex Azar, and Homeland Security Secretary Nielsen to "give us a plan" outlining how families will be reunited. Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) added that the visit "probably raised more questions than it answered." The article added that "some two dozen Democratic House lawmakers visited a border detention center in McAllen, Texas, on

Saturday, marking the second weekend in a row that Democrats have toured the facility to examine conditions and the treatment of immigrants held there."

***Some Florida State, Local Lawmakers Not Allowed To Visit Homestead Shelter.*** The Miami Herald (6/23, Vassolo, Flechas, 1.07M) reported that on Saturday, Reps. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL), Frederica Wilson (D-FL), Ted Deutch (D-FL), and Darren Soto (D-FL) were given a tour of the Homestead shelter which houses 1,179 immigrant children. The article said five Miami-Dade and state elected officials sought to accompany them, but were denied entry and told they need to provide two weeks' notice before a visit could be approved. Mark Weber, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs at HHS, "told the lawmakers that HHS needed more notice to accommodate their requests. He said the lawmakers could tour the facility at a later date."

***Nelson, Wasserman Schultz Say Homestead Shelter Is Taking Good Care Of Immigrant Children.*** The Fort Myers (FL) News-Press (6/23, 208K) reported that "70 migrant children forcibly taken from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border are in good hands in Homestead, Democratic leaders led by U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson and Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz concluded Saturday after touring the shelter." Wasserman Schultz said, "It is inexplicable to me why Sen. Nelson and I were not allowed to see it when we asked on Tuesday." For his part, Nelson stated, "The facilities are nice. ... The question is the reunification of the 2,300 children across the country separated from their parents. How long will they be detained?"

***Lee Says It Was "Heart-Wrenching" To Visit Immigrant Facility In McAllen, Texas.*** The Hill (6/24, Samuels, 2.71M) reports that on Sunday, Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA) "compared holding facilities for [im]migrant families to prisons." Discussing her tour of a facility in McAllen, TX on CNN's "State of the Union," Lee said, "It was heart-wrenching. The images that we see on the media really speak volumes to what's taking place but when you see it in person it's horrific." She "said she saw a boy and a girl, each about 3 years old, crying in cells by themselves."

***Rubio Says Congress Can Take Action To Keep Immigrant Families Together.*** The AP (6/22) reported that on Friday, Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) "visited a Miami-area facility housing more than 1,000 teenage migrants." Following the visit,

Rubio "said he didn't speak to any of the children inside the Homestead complex because of privacy regulations." Rubio acknowledged that "splitting up families at the border was 'a terrible situation' but the U.S. doesn't have the money or the capacity to hold families together when they're detained by immigration authorities." He added that Congress would have to take action to keep immigrant families together.

***Christie Blames DOJ For Administration's Handling Of Zero Tolerance Policy.*** The Hill (6/24, Samuels, 2.71M) reports that on Sunday, Chris Christie blamed "the Department of Justice (DOJ) for the Trump administration's handling of its 'zero tolerance' policy and the subsequent separation of [im]migrant families that prompted overwhelming backlash in the weeks since its implementation." On ABC's "This Week," Christie said, "I think one of the things that hasn't been talked about this week, George (Stephanopoulos), is the president was enormously ill served by the Department of Justice." He added, "If the attorney general come in and says to the president, 'I want you to do a zero tolerance policy, but let me just tell you, we don't have enough judges to handle the cases, we don't have enough prosecutors to bring the cases, and we don't have enough detention facilities to legally detain the people that we're going to show zero tolerance to,' the president would have never approved this."

***New York Governor Fighting Administration Over Immigration Policy.*** In an article that examined New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo's (D) growing role in fighting the Administration on its immigration policy, the New York Times (6/22, McKinley, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reported that he sent a letter to HHS Secretary Alex Azar on Friday "asking for information on the 345 separated children the state has managed to count thus far." The Times conceded Cuomo "may have originally seemed to some to have been driven by political opportunism," but his "efforts on behalf of the [im]migrant children have earned praise from advocates, who have been equally outspoken about the president's so-called 'zero tolerance' policy of separating children."

The Washington Times (6/22, Muñoz, 460K) reported that on Friday, Cuomo "slammed the Department of Health and Human Services on Friday, claiming he has not been given enough information on the immigration children



transported to his state." He said, "I know nothing from HHS. All I know is what I'm putting together."

The AP (6/22, Carola) reported that Cuomo also said on Friday that some of the separated immigrant children who have been sent to New York "need psychological counseling for the traumatizing ordeal." The governor described his visit to one shelter "as 'troubling' during the NY1 interview. He said the facility is housing children ages about 11 to 18, with some of them 'in a state of shock' and requiring 'serious significant psychological assistance.'"

**More Immigrant Children Being Sent To New York City Even As Some Are Reunited With Families.** The New York Daily News (6/22, McShane, Ruscoe, Hussain, 3.71M) reported that on Friday, officials in New York City "braced...for a new surge of migrant children coming to the city from the Mexican border – even as 100 were already reunited with their parents." Rep. Adriano Espaillat (D-NY) said local officials "were told 'there will be a growing number of unaccompanied minors coming in.'" The article added that about 100 children sent to facilities in Harlem had "already been...returned to their families."

**New York Officials Unable To Determine How Many Immigrant Children Have Been Sent To The State.** The New York Times (6/22, Robbins, Correal, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reported that as of Friday, "officials in New York still did not have answers to even the most basic questions about the children who had been separated from their parents at the southern border and relocated 2,000 miles away: How many were there, and where had they been placed?" Both Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo (D) and Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) wrote letters to HHS seeking those answers. The article added that this "confusion underscored just how chaotic the situation was, with lawyers frantically scrambling to figure out how to represent the children, and Cayuga, which had the most children, urgently looking for staff and asking for more Spanish-speaking volunteers to serve as foster parents."

**Sen. Schumer Calls For Appointment Of Immigration Czar To Reunite Children.** The New York Daily News (6/24, Gibson, 3.71M) reports Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) called on the Trump Administration Sunday to appoint an immigration czar to handle reunification of families. Schumer explained, "What we found out of over the years is when there are separate

agencies trying to solve a single problem it works slowly at best, and sometimes doesn't work at all."

Newsday (NY) (6/24, O'Keeffe, 1.52M) reports Schumer said, "Three different agencies, three different Cabinet members in charge." He added, "No one is really in charge if there are three people in charge. We need one person in charge."

**Proposed New York State Bill Would Allow Undocumented Immigrants Facing Deportation To Select Legal Guardians For Their Children.** The New York Daily News (6/22, Lovett, 3.71M) reported, "Undocumented immigrant parents facing possible deportation from New York would be able to choose a guardian to care for their kids under a bill that won final approval in the Legislature last week." The measure "would expand the standby guardianship law created in the 1980s during the AIDS crisis that has mainly been used by parents diagnosed with a terminal illness to transfer guardianship of their kids to someone they know and trust."

**Immigrants Reportedly Asked To Sign Voluntary Deportation Documents In Exchange For Being Reunited With Children.** The Hill (6/24, Samuels, 2.71M) reports that Central American immigrants who have been detained and "separated from their children have been told they can reunite with them if they agree to voluntarily deportations, The Texas Tribune reported Sunday." The Tribune, citing a man from Honduras and two immigration attorneys, said "the migrants have been told they would be reunited with their children at an airport if they agree to sign off on deportations." The man "said he gave up his asylum case and signed the paperwork in an effort to reunite with his 6-year-old daughter," but "he's now trying to rescind his agreement and fight his case in court." The article adds that lawmakers from both parties "have called family separations 'cruel' and 'inhuman.'"

**Immigrants Deported Without Their Children Describe Their "Anguish."** AFP (6/24) reports that Central American immigrants "deported from the US without their children spoke of their anguish at seeing their families split under President Donald Trump's 'zero tolerance' approach Saturday, as protesters kept up the pressure against the 'barbaric' policy." So far, about 500 immigrant children have been reunited with family members. But it remains to be seen "how quickly the rest of the reunifications can be carried out." Attorneys "working to bring families



back together said they were struggling through a labyrinthine process – while more [im]migrants continue to arrive."

The Corpus Christi (TX) Caller-Times (6/24, Alvarado, 126K) reports that the Department of Homeland Security and HHS issued a news release which explained that "separate deportations are a choice given to parents." It stated, "A parent who is ordered removed from the U.S. may request that his or her minor child accompany them. ... It should be noted that in the past many parents have elected to be removed without their children."

***Detention, Process Of Reunification Can Be Psychologically Traumatic For Separated Immigrant Children, Experts Warn.*** The New York Times (6/22, Carey, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reported, "The chaotic process of reuniting thousands of migrant children and parents separated by the Trump administration's 'zero tolerance' policy poses great psychological risks, both short- and long-term, mental health experts said on Friday." They also warned that "holding those families indefinitely while they await legal proceedings" poses similar risks. The article added, "The administration has no clear plan to reunite migrant families, which is sure to carry a psychological price for migrant parents and more than 2,300 children separated from them at the border in recent months." About 400 of these children are under the age of 12, and many are toddlers.

NBC Nightly News (6/24, story 3, 1:40, Snow, 8.26M) reported, "Child psychologists...say reunifications can be as fraught as the separation itself."

On its front page, the Washington Post (6/24, A1, Sacchetti, Sieff, Fisher, 15.68M) reports that the "children who were forcibly separated from their parents at the border by the United States government are all over the country now, in Michigan and Maryland, in foster homes in California and shelters in Virginia, in cold, institutional settings with adults who are not permitted to touch them or with foster parents who do not speak Spanish but who hug them when they cry." The Post says, "The children have been through hell. ... And now they live and wait in unfamiliar places: big American suburban houses where no one speaks their language; a locked shelter on a dusty road where they spend little time outside; a converted Walmart where each morning they are required to stand and recite the

Pledge of Allegiance, in English, to the country that holds them apart from their parents."

The Atlantic (6/22, Khazan, 3.08M) reported that immigrant children separated from their parents "still face great turmoil, beyond the stress of the immigration experience itself," in spite of President Trump's new executive order. Dr. Colleen Kraft, president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, warned that such "trauma can permanently affect the brains of these children, and potentially their long-term development," according to the article. Kraft, who visited one of the shelters overseen by HHS' Office of Refugee Resettlement, "described seeing a room full of toddlers that was 'eerily silent,'" with the exception of "one little girl, who was 'sobbing and wailing and beating her fists on the mat.'" A staff worker attempted "to comfort her with books and toys, but she wasn't allowed to pick her up or touch her, Kraft said."

***Journalists Allowed To Tour Homestead Shelter For Immigrant Children On Friday.*** The AP (6/22, Fox) reported that on Friday, Administration officials "provided a glimpse...into a South Florida facility housing more than 1,000 teenage migrants, seeking to dispel any suggestions that children are being mistreated." The article said, "Private contractors who run the Homestead Temporary Shelter for Unaccompanied Children, about 25 miles (42 kilometers) southwest of Miami, showed journalists around the campus like-complex for about an hour." Reporters were not allowed "to interview the children, and no cameras or recorders of any kind were allowed inside." They were shown "dorm-style buildings where children sleep up to 12 per room in steel-framed bunk beds, and warehouse-sized, air-conditioned white tents where minors attend classes and watch movies."

***Majority Of Americans Say Treatment Of Immigrants At The US-Mexico Border Will Affect Their Vote In The Midterms.*** The Hill (6/24, Samuels, 2.71M) reports in its "Blog Briefing Room" that some "60 percent of Americans say the treatment of migrant families arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border is important to their vote in this year's midterms, according to a new" CBS News/YouGov poll. Data show "one-third of Americans indicated the issue will be very important to their vote." In addition, 84 percent of Democrats "said the issue will be important to

their vote, while 43 percent of Republicans said the same."

**Trump Administration Seeks To Expand Use Of Family Detention For Immigrants With Children.** The AP (6/23, Taxin) reported, "The Trump administration is calling for the expanded use of family detention for immigrant parents and children who are stopped along the U.S.-Mexico border, a move decried by advocates as a cruel and ineffective attempt to deter families from coming to the United States." On Friday, immigration authorities said "they may seek up to 15,000 beds to detain families. The Justice Department has also asked a federal court in California to allow children to be detained longer and in facilities that don't require state licensing while they await immigration court proceedings."

**HHS Considering Using Former Japanese-American Internment Camp To House Immigrant Children.** The AP (6/22, Grabenstein) reported that some "75 years after federal officials shuttered a Japanese-American internment camp in Rohwer, Arkansas, the Trump administration is examining a site about 2 miles away as a potential temporary shelter for immigrant children." HHS "said Thursday that the government is considering an unused Department of Agriculture property in nearby Kelso as an immigrant shelter, as well as a possible shelter at Little Rock Air Force Base."

**Trump Administration Urged To Seek Alternatives To Holding Immigrant Families In Detention.** TIME (6/22, Rhodan, 19.27M) reported now that President Trump has reversed his policy of separating immigrant families, his "administration is pursuing another option: holding families together in detention centers." However, "immigrant advocates, who note that approach has already faced successful legal challenges in the past, argue that there are other alternatives that the Trump Administration isn't considering, including one program with an extremely high success rate that Trump already ended." The article added, "One option is to use a combination of GPS tracking and home visits to keep tabs on immigrants who have been picked up, allowing them to stay out of detention while their case works through the legal system."

**More Immigrants Entering The US As Administration Begins Effort To Reunite Separated Families.** The AP (6/23, Weissert, Spagat) reported that the Trump Administration's zero tolerance policy resulted in some 2,300 children being separated from their parents.

President Trump reversed the policy following an international "outcry." The article said it remains unclear "how many asylum-seekers are still entering the country, how many are being detained as families, and how many are being released. Nor it is known how long it will take for all parents and guardians to be reunited with their children."

**Some Immigrant Children Separated From Parents Are Being Sent To Minnesota.** The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/22, Serres, Smith, 1.16M) reported that "a small number of unaccompanied migrant children...have arrived in Minnesota since the federal government began taking a harder line against illegal border crossings." The article added, "They are...the first in an expected surge of unaccompanied minors, forcibly removed from their parents, who are now making their way to distant relatives in Minnesota and surrounding states." It remains to be seen "how many of the children will end up in Minnesota, but immigration law experts say the numbers could reach into the dozens by this fall."

**California Attorney Representing Dozens Of Separated Immigrant Mothers, Children.** The Arizona Republic (6/23, Nández, 1.21M) reported that attorney Michael Avenatti said he is "representing about 60 mothers and 70 children separated at the border under the Trump administration's zero-tolerance border policy." The article said Avenatti, the "California attorney who became a regular on news talk shows after representing porn star Stormy Daniels in her legal battle with President Donald Trump, is among a growing number of attorneys nationwide attempting to reunite children with their parents."

**Protesters Asked To Not Demonstrate In Front Of Shelters Housing Immigrant Children.** Newsday (NY) (6/22, Griffith, Camargo, 1.52M) reported, "Immigration and child welfare advocates are asking protesters not to demonstrate outside shelters housing migrant children for fear of distressing them." The article said that recently, "protesters gathered at LaGuardia Airport and some shelters around the country that are holding children who have been separated from their families at the U.S.-Mexico border." But on Friday, the New York Immigration Coalition urged the public to "refrain from such demonstrations, even if they aim to show support for the children."

**HHS, Other Federal Workers Agonized Over Separations Of Immigrant Families.** In

interviews with the New York Times (6/23, Dickerson, Subscription Publication, 19.33M), "more than a dozen employees" at Immigration and Customs Enforcement, US Customs and Border Protection, and the Department of Health and Human Services "said they were feeling alienated and exhausted after being ordered to carry out, then halt, the separations – as well as deal with the fallout." The article said the federal employees "agonized" over enforcing the policy, and while "some officials supported the seizing of children from their migrant parents under orders from the White House, others felt helpless in their cubicles, shed tears and went home wracked with guilt." The piece added that regardless of "whether they endorsed the president's policy or abhorred it, employees across the federal system expressed frustration that major changes came without advance notice." The article also said that at HHS, "the suspension of the policy prompted a scramble to begin reuniting parents and children." An unnamed official said, "The reaction was a little bit of happiness but not glee or anything. ... It was like 'O.K., how do we get them back to their parents?'"

***Protesters Criticize Administration's Immigration Policies As HHS Moves To Reunite Separated Families.*** The AP (6/23, Rosenblatt) reported, "From New York City to San Diego on Saturday, thousands of protesters demonstrated against the Trump administration's immigration policies." Rallies promoting the "Keep Families Together" slogan "took place in California, Texas, and New York, as well as in other states, as droves of people focused the protest around the separation of families at the U.S.-Mexico border." On Saturday, HHS spokesperson Evelyn J. Stauffer said HHS Secretary Alex Azar "is bringing to bear all the relevant resources of the department in order to assist in the reunification or placement of unaccompanied alien children and teenagers with a parent or appropriate sponsor."

The Dallas Morning News (6/23, Manrique, 1.05M) reported, "Calls to end the Trump administration's 'zero-tolerance' crackdown on migrant families escalated Saturday when protesters from Dallas and other cities briefly blocked an immigration bus, while other civil rights leaders launched a nationwide fast." Protesters were chanting, "Set them free!"

The San Diego Union-Tribune (6/23, Weisberg, Diehl, Davis, 664K) reported that

thousands demonstrated "in downtown San Diego and at the border Saturday to protest the Trump administration's illegal immigration crackdown that has resulted in children being separated from their parents." The article said these protests, "among several that unfolded nationwide, capped a turbulent week in which the president agreed to halt family separations but detain families together – a directive that left border authorities unsure of how to proceed with future arrests."

***Connecticut Offers State Resources To Reunite Families.*** The AP (6/24) reports that in a letter to HHS Secretary Alex M. Azar, Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy (D) is "offering state resources to help the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services with migrant children separated from their parents."

***California Regulators To Re-Inspect Facilities Where Separated Immigrant Children Are Housed.*** The San Jose (CA) Mercury News (6/23, Esquivel, Bermudez, Agrawal, 552K) reported that on Saturday, California regulators said "they will immediately begin inspections at facilities where scores of immigrant children who were separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border under a Trump administration crackdown are being held." According to Michael Weston, a spokesman for the Department of Social Services, "state officials were re-inspecting facilities run by groups that have federal contracts to house unaccompanied children. The inspections were to begin Saturday, and were initially focused on providers that work with the youngest children, he said."

***Pentagon Preparing Two Bases To House Immigrants.*** The AP (6/25, Baldor) reports Defense Secretary Jim Mattis announced that the Department of Defense is preparing to construct temporary camps for immigrants at two unnamed military bases. The AP adds that the Department of Health and Human Services requested the temporary shelters and will operate them.

The Hill (6/24, Conradis, 2.71M) reports Secretary Mattis said, "The details are being worked out ... about exactly how much capacity they need at the two bases, what other kinds of facilities they need built." The Boston Globe (6/25, 945K) reports the Pentagon "had initially talked about four potential bases, but Mattis indicated the number is now two."

***Sen. Elizabeth Warren Tours Immigration Center And Says "It's A Disturbing Picture."*** The Hill (6/24, Manchester, 2.71M) reports Sen.

Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) toured an immigration center in McAllen, Texas on Sunday, saying it painted a "disturbing picture." She said, "There are children by themselves" and "I saw a six-month-old baby, little girls, little boys." She added, "There are mothers with their babies, with small children. Family units are together if it's a very small child, but little girls who are 12 years old are taken away from the rest of their families and held separately." Warren also said, "They're all lying on concrete floors in cages. There's just no other way to describe it."

**Sen. Lankford Calls Out Trump Administration's Lack Of Transparency On Immigration.** The Hill (6/24, Mitchell, 2.71M) reports Sen. James Lankford (R-OK) said on "Meet the Press" that the Trump Administration has not been transparent about its policy on immigrants on the US-Mexico border. He said of the lack of transparency, "Now this has been one of the great frustrations." Lankford defended the Administration's care for children in its custody, saying, "These are career professionals that work with [the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)] ... They know where every child is to be able to connect them to their parent or their relative that came. But HHS often puts them in foster care across several states because they can't handle the load on the southern border."

**Teenager Missing After Walking Away From Shelter In Brownsville, Texas.** The New York Times (6/24, Zaveri, Fernandez, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports a 15-year-old immigrant boy who was being sheltered in a former Walmart in Brownsville, Texas "disappeared into the borderland" Saturday after he "walked off its premises." The news came as officials from Southwest Key "sought to reassure members of Congress and the news media who had toured the center that the roughly 1,500 boys living there, aged 10 to 17, were well cared for and closely monitored." Jeff Eller, a spokesman for the company, "said on Sunday it could not legally require children to stay on the premises if they sought to leave."

However, NBC News (6/24, 5.76M) reports on its website that the boy is now in Mexico, "according to a source with direct knowledge of the incident."

**Brazilian Mother Struggles With US Red Tape To Reunite With Her Son.** The New York Times (6/24, Jordan, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports on a Brazilian mother who was

separated from her nine-year-old son after they turned themselves in at the United States border. Her son was sent to Chicago while she was released to join relatives in Hyannis, Massachusetts. The Times reports, "While some of the children have been reunited with their parents in recent days, interviews with immigration lawyers and government officials suggest that most of the children are likely to remain parked in group facilities or foster homes for some time to come." The piece describes her struggles with the "red tape" of trying to reunite her family.

**New York City's Public Hospitals Have Treated 12 Immigrant Children Separated From Their Parents And Placed In Foster Care.** Crain's New York Business (6/22, LaMantia, 233K) reported NYC Health & Hospital CEO Dr. Mitchell Katz said that 12 immigrant children who were placed in foster care after being separated from their parents have been treated at North Central Bronx Hospital and Bellevue. Dr. Daran Kaufman, the director of pediatric emergency services at North Central Bronx, said the patients were treated for different conditions including asthma, constipation, and depression.

TIME (6/22, Ducharme, 19.27M) reported as the children arrive at the hospitals, physicians "say they are doing whatever they can to ease their transition into the United States." Kaufman also said, "It's been quite trying to see these children coming into the emergency room without their parents and seeing how sad and withdrawn they are given what's happened."

**Advocates In Texas Question Plan To Reunite Immigrant Families.** The Arizona Republic (6/24, 1.21M) reports the departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services "announced late Saturday that they had established a process to ensure family members know the location of their children, have regular communication and can be reunited. 'This process is well coordinated,' the statement said." The Texas Civil Rights Project, "which has also interviewed separated families at the border, said Sunday that the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights had formally demanded details on the Trump administration's handling of family separation and reunification."

**More Commentary.** EJ Dionne, Jr., writes in the Washington Post (6/24, 15.68M) that "President Trump has a special animus toward immigrants, but the children of those crossing our borders are not the only vulnerable people in his

sights" because the Administration is "waging a less visible war on our nation's poorest citizens, with the complicity of its Republican allies in Congress." Dionne describes the "latest attacks on programs that have long commanded bipartisan support" such as House approval of legislation that would impose additional work requirements on recipients of food stamps. Dionne writes, "It's hard to escape the sense that this is about decimating help for the least fortunate."

In an editorial, the New York Times (6/23, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) blames Republicans for creating the circumstances under which "a president of their party felt he was enforcing its principles by breaking apart families and caging children." While admitting "Trump inherited a broken immigration system," the Times adds "there is also no question that he prefers ranting about its brokenness to making even a token effort at fixing it. And he has even less interest in addressing the root causes of migrant families flocking to the border." The Times concludes Republican lawmakers "owe it to the American people to help keep him in check."

Novelist Oscar Cásares wrote in the Washington Post (6/22, 15.68M) about listening to "seven minutes of an audio recording of small children crying for their mommies and daddies" several times. He explained, "Anyone who's ever cared for a small child, sick or hurt or scared, knows that when the child cries, all else pretty much ceases to exist."

In an editorial, the Washington Post (6/23, 15.68M) wrote that in the days since President Trump signed an executive order "supposedly barring the routine practice of taking children from parents who illegally cross the border from Mexico," many of the "2,500 children separated from their parents since the administration started implementing its zero-tolerance policy in the spring remain in shelters and foster homes all over the country." The Post added that officials in the Administration "appear to have devoted little thought or effort to reunifying families, a process that even under the best of circumstances has legal and logistical challenges." The editorial urges Republicans in Congress to find "a humane solution to the humanitarian crisis that Mr. Trump has created."

Van Jones wrote for CNN (6/23, 82.6M) on its website that in order to ensure that the "thousands of migrant children who have been

taken from their families" are reunited with their parents, President Trump "must appoint a 'Family Reunification Czar' immediately." Jones added, "As it stands, many migrant parents have little reassurance that they will quickly find their kids." He recommended, "There needs to be one person in charge of this effort to put these families back together. And that role cannot be symbolic."

Scott Simon wrote NPR (6/23, 3.55M) that "public figures, including the pope, bishops, senators of both parties, and every living spouse of a president spoke out against the Trump administration policy that separated more than 2,300 children crossing the border from their families." Simon emphasized the effect of hearing the children's cries during news coverage and concluded, "But we know — and must find a way to report — about the children and families who are still locked up and being kept apart. There are still cries to be heard."

EJ Montini wrote in the Arizona Republic (6/23, 1.21M) that the Trump Administration's Department of Health and Human Services may have "lost" as many as 6,000 unaccompanied children who were taken into custody at the border, according to reporters from McClatchy news service. He asks, "How is it that we don't have a program to adequately keep track of these children and the people with whom we place them?"

Margaret Talbot writes in the New Yorker (6/24, 5.23M) that the "theatre of cruelty unfolding at the southern border last week was the purest distillation yet of what it means to be governed by a President with no moral center." She continues, "Administration officials portray the challenges at the border in stark, binary terms: either we treat all border crossers, including asylum seekers, as dangerous criminals to be incarcerated or we wantonly open the gates to all the world," adding, "There is, of course, a middle path, providing workable and humane alternatives to detention."

Van Newkirk wrote in The Atlantic (6/23, 3.08M) to analyze recent statements by Attorney General Jeff Sessions because they reveal that "Trumpism might be defined mostly by a lack of conviction and a corresponding unwillingness to ever own up to any one policy decision." Newkirk added, "For the thousands of families torn apart by zero tolerance--and some perhaps permanently so--and for the children detained and subject to psychologically and physically harmful



conditions, there's no remedy for the Trump administration's blunder."

Valeria Luiselli wrote in the New York Times (6/23, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) to describe how her 6-year-old daughter perceives the election and Administration of President Trump, observing, "No matter their story and immigration status, shame and guilt are what Hispanic children are taught to feel in America." Luiselli explains a Brooklyn class that was studying Don Quixote and argues, "Perhaps America – not the real America, but that white-only, English-only America – does indeed have a reason to fear the new generation of Hispanic children, these new Quixotes. They are beautiful, brilliant, well-educated and multilingual. And they have had enough."

Stephanie Carnes wrote in the Huffington Post (6/22, 4.32M) that "while its cruel ploy of tearing children away from their parents lasted a month and a half or so – that we know of – the long-term damage done to those children will endure far longer." Carnes describes her work as a clinician at a shelter program funded by the Office of Refugee Resettlement in 2015 "during the surge of unaccompanied children arriving from Central America." She describes what she saw during that time and concluded, "One way or the other, the effects of this weeklong injustice will reverberate for years, if not decades."

Columnist Rochelle Riley wrote in the Detroit Free Press (6/23, 1.21M) that it "could be so simple" to reunite separated immigrant children being housed in Michigan that "even Donald Trump could do it." DHHS officials in Michigan "said the state has no authority over the children being warehoused here because they are classified as illegal immigrants." However, "if the federal government changes their status to unaccompanied refugees, the state could enter them into the foster care system, provide services and reunite them with their families." Riley said this could also apply to other states.

Benjamin Hart writes in the Daily Intelligencer (NY) (6/24, 551K) that when President Trump issued his executive order last week, "he made it clear that the rest of his severe border policy would remain in place." However, "there's a big legal roadblock standing in the way of Trump's vision 'zero tolerance' vision: the Flores settlement, a 1997 consent decree requiring that children who cross the border accompanied by their parents must be released within 20 days."

Valerie Richardson writes in the Washington Times (6/24, 460K) that according to a CBS News/YouGov tracking poll, 53 percent of US adults said they "strongly" opposed the Trump Administration's policy of separating parents from their children on the border. The poll found, however, that 53 percent of Democrats said that the policy would not change how they vote. Richardson points out, "The results indicate that voters remain sharply divided and firmly entrenched on issues related to immigration, and that the recent pitched debate and feverish news coverage surrounding family separation haven't changed matters."

## **THE SECRETARY IN THE NEWS**

### **Planned Parenthood Affiliates Sue HHS For Abstinence-Only Efforts On Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program.**

The AP (6/22, Geranios) reported that "several affiliates" of Planned Parenthood sued the US Department of Health and Human Services on Friday over its efforts to impose an abstinence-only focus on its Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. The lawsuits were filed in federal courts in New York City and Spokane, Washington, by four different Planned Parenthood affiliates covering New York City and the states of Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Nebraska and Washington. In addition to the agency, the lawsuits name as defendants HHS Secretary Alex Azar and Valerie Huber, chief of staff for the Office of Assistant Secretary of Health.

The Hill (6/22, Hellmann, 2.71M) reported that Planned Parenthood argues in its lawsuit that the funding opportunity announcement issued by HHS that emphasize abstinence education "goes against congressional intent for the program" because it does not require the use of programs that have been "proven effective through rigorous evaluation."

The Washington Examiner (6/22, Leonard, 340K) also covered the story.

### **CMS Delays Update To Hospital Star Rating System.**

Modern Healthcare (6/23, Castellucci, Subscription Publication, 239K) reported that last week "for the third time," the CMS "put off...an update of its overall hospital star ratings after hospitals raised concerns about the methodology." The article said "the decision to delay fits with HHS Secretary Alex Azar's price



transparency goals," and wrote that the CMS' proposed hospital inpatient payment rule would require hospitals to publish online a list of their standard charges.

## **UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN**

### **ORR Director Mum On Administration's Immigration Policy.**

Colby Itkowitz wrote in the Washington Post (6/22, 15.68M) "The Health 202" that Scott Lloyd is the director of "the federal agency that's become central in the political maelstrom over the Trump administration's now-reverted policy separating migrant children from their families at the southern border." But "Lloyd has said nothing publicly about the matter, even as it has consumed the headlines for days." The piece added that it remains "unclear the exact role played by Lloyd, who directs the Office of Refugee Resettlement under the Department of Health and Human Services that has had more than 2,000 migrant children in its care since they were separated from their parents under Trump's 'zero tolerance' policy (those children, and tens of thousands more, may now be transferred to the Pentagon)." He "hasn't been heard from publicly since he spoke on a United Nations panel in April about his desire to create stricter standards for accepting unaccompanied minors who cross the border into the federally run shelters."

### **Tim Kaine Visits Virginia Facility Housing Separated Immigrant Children.**

The Washington Post (6/22, Anderson, Lang, 15.68M) reported that some 15 immigrant "children recently separated from their parents near the southwestern U.S. border are staying at a shelter in Northern Virginia, according to the shelter's leadership." On Friday, Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA) "toured the Youth for Tomorrow facility...in the Prince William County community of Bristow, aides said, speaking with some of the migrant children and learning from the staff that many of the youngsters arrived there 'traumatized.'" The article said about "2,500 [im]migrant children were separated from parents under Trump administration actions starting in early May." HHS' Office of Refugee Resettlement "has placed many of them in shelters and foster homes around the country." The piece added that

"HHS' Administration for Children and Families did not respond to an email from The Washington Post this week seeking information about the number of separated children sent to Maryland and Virginia."

### **California Facility Housing About 100 Separated Immigrant Children.**

The Los Angeles Times (6/23, Esquivel, 4.03M) reported, "David & Margaret Youth and Family Services features a school, a market and a pool – even a cafe offering a \$5.50 turkey sandwich called California Dreamin'." At present, it is "home to some of the children who were forcibly taken from their parents under President Trump's 'zero tolerance' immigration policy." The article said it is not known "how long they will be separated from their families, frustrating leaders across Los Angeles trying to help the estimated 100 kids in facilities throughout the region." The piece added that officials at HHS' Office of Refugee Resettlement, "the federal agency charged with managing the kids, did not respond to repeated requests for comment."

### **Immigrant From El Salvador Deported Without Six-Year-Old Daughter.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Partlow, 15.68M) reported on Arnovis Guidos Portillo, a 26-year-old farmer from El Salvador who was separated from his six-year-old daughter, Meybelin. Guidos says he was told the separation would be temporary, but he was eventually deported back to El Salvador without his daughter, who is still in the US. The article added, "A Southwest Key Programs spokeswoman said she could not confirm if Meybelin was at the Phoenix shelter and referred queries to the Office of Refugee Resettlement, part of the Department of Health and Human Services. An HHS spokesman said it would take days to confirm her location and, even then, the department might not be able to speak about her case because of privacy concerns."

### **23andMe Offers To Provide Kits, Resources To Conduct DNA Testing, Help Reunite Separated Immigrant Families.**

The San Francisco Chronicle (6/22, Ho, 3.29M) reported, "Mountain View genetic testing company 23andMe has offered to donate DNA test kits to help migrant children in detention centers reunite with their parents – prompting logistical and ethical concerns about an

undertaking that genetics experts say would be a first in the United States.” The company “said it would provide its kits and resources to federal officials to help reconnect the separated families but offered few details on how it would proceed beyond CEO Anne Wojcicki saying on Twitter, “We are waiting to see the best way to follow up and make it happen.” The article said HHS would have to approve this plan, but neither the department nor its Administration for Children and Families has commented on the matter.

**Trump’s Executive Order Helped To Reduce Criticism Over Immigrant Policy, But May Have Created New Issues For Administration.** Politico (6/22, Johnson, Karni, Cook, 3.51M) reported, “Facing an unprecedented outpouring of public outrage this week over the separation of migrant families at the border, President Donald Trump did what he usually does when he wants a quick fix: Asked for an executive order.” The article said the President “frequently demands executive orders to carry out policies he wants to implement as a way of circumventing the long process of working with Congress to pass legislation, according to a former administration official – a move he picked up from former chief strategist Steve Bannon, who in the opening months of the Trump presidency, used the directives to carry out his ‘shock and awe’ strategy.” Although the order “stanching the flow of negative media coverage, beginning the process of reuniting children and parents, the vaguely worded immigration order created a new set of problems for the administration.” The article added that on Friday, HHS announced the creation of an “unaccompanied children reunification task force” to help reunite separated immigrant families.

**Latino Nonprofit In Texas Providing Housing For Thousands Of Unaccompanied Immigrant Minors.** NPR (6/22, Domonoske, 3.55M) reported that Southwest Key Programs, a large Latino nonprofit in Austin, TX, “has been running shelters for unaccompanied migrant children for two decades, without drawing much attention. In some instances, the shelters were described admiringly.” At present, “Southwest Key has 26 shelters in Texas, Arizona and California, housing more than 5,100 immigrant minors,” who represent “about half of the total population in the

custody of Health and Human Services.” The group’s “federal contracts now tally more than \$400 million annually.”

**State Legislators, Advocates Worried About Welfare Of Separated Immigrant Children In Kansas.** The Kansas City (MO) Star (6/22, Bauer, 636K) reported, “State legislators and child welfare attorneys say they’re worried about the welfare of migrant children staying in Kansas and question how long they will be separated from their families.” Top Democrats have requested “for a tour of the Topeka nonprofit where the children were sent, but said they were told that would have to wait.” During “a Friday morning news conference, they said officials at The Villages – which serves troubled and neglected youth – told them gaining access could take up to two weeks.” The piece added that during the 2017 fiscal year, The Villages, a nonprofit in Topeka, KS, “received \$2.6 million in funding from the Office of Refugee Resettlement through its Unaccompanied Alien Children Program.” That amount has already risen to \$3.2 million this year.

**Sen. Johnson Discusses Government’s Ability To Reunite Families.** The Hill (6/24, Balluck, 2.71M) reports Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) in an interview early Sunday “pointed to the Obama administration’s track record when asked if the Trump administration will be able to reunite migrant children who were separated from their families at the border.” He argued that “the track record of the prior administration wasn’t particularly good either. ... A subcommittee looked...into the lack of coordination between [the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)], who with unaccompanied children has to turn those unaccompanied children over to [the Department of Health and Human Resources (HHS)] within 72 hours. And they literally lost track of, I think it was about 1,500 kids.”

## **HHS IN THE NEWS**

**CNN Says Official Who Was Disciplined Over Conspiracy Website, Anti-Islam Show Included That Information On Her Resume When She Applied To HHS.** The Hill (6/23,

Birnbaum, 2.71M) reported that Ximena Barreto, an HHS official "who was demoted following a public outcry over her work for a conspiracy website and anti-Islam show, listed both experiences on her resume, according to a report by CNN." The copy of her resume which CNN obtained on Thursday "shows that she listed her work for the conspiracy-focused website Borderland Alternative Media and right-wing YouTube shows when she applied for the position." In addition, she "listed her personal website, which linked to all of her social media accounts where she published a number of derogatory remarks."

**CMS Launches Data Element Library Advances.** EHR Intelligence (6/22, Monica) reported that CMS recently launched a Data Element Library "that supports health data and health IT standardization to improve interoperability." According to the article, "DEL is a free, centralized database that enables the public to view the specific types of data CMS requires post-acute care (PAC) facilities, such as nursing homes and rehabilitation hospitals, to collect during patient health assessments." The article added that "by improving interoperability and health data standardization across care settings, CMS helps to ensure patients can have access to their information when needed."

Health Data Management (6/22) also covered the story.

**Study: 1 in 5 Americans Lives With Mental Disease.** The Tennessean (6/25, 513K) reports that "nearly 1 in five U.S. adults lives with a mental illness," which is 44.7 million people in 2016. But estimates "suggest that only half of the people with mental illnesses receive treatment, according to the National Institute of Mental Health." Oregon has "the highest rate, and New Jersey the lowest, according to 2012-2014 data analyzed by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration." SAMHSA acting deputy assistant secretary Kana Enomoto said, "The figures in SAMHSA's report remind us how important it is to take mental health as seriously as any other health condition."

**Bardella: "Enormously Disruptive" Actions By Trump Administration Going Unnoticed.** Kurt Bardella writes for the Huffington Post (6/24, 4.32M) that as

opponents of Donald Trump "expend all of our oxygen pushing back against the jailing of children, the shameless corruption or the daily assaults on the First Amendment, the administration is taking enormously disruptive actions that go virtually unseen or unnoticed." On June 1, "the Department of Health and Human Services officially unveiled a proposed rule that could have significant consequences for women's health care. It is yet another front in the Republican Party's ongoing war on women and it must be met with resistance and vigorous public debate." The proposed rule, "often called the 'gag rule,' targets health care providers who perform abortions by withholding Title X (the National Family Planning Program) funds."

**CDC Determines Belmont Park Worker's Death Caused By Bacterial Sepsis, Not Hantavirus.** The New York Times (6/24, Nir, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports a recently deceased Belmont Park racetrack employee died of "bacterial sepsis, not hantavirus, a rat-borne illness that was initially suspected, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention." After the man "collapsed...on the track grounds beside the ramshackle employee housing run by the New York Racing Association, and died less than a week later, state health officials suspected hantavirus"; and a commercial laboratory determined he "tested positive for hantavirus antibodies." However, testing by the CDC "concluded that sepsis...was the true cause of the man's death."

**Lyme Disease Cases Significantly Underreported, CDC Says.** The Wall Street Journal (6/22, McGinty, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reported that disparities between documented Lyme disease cases and the actual prevalence are high, according to the CDC, which says that the 30,000 cases recorded annually are a fraction of the probable 300,000 cases per year. Lyme disease, as the "most common vector-borne disease by far," remains "underreported," according to CDC epidemiologist Dr. Kiersten Kugeler. She added, "All reportable diseases are subject to underreporting, although we know this is particularly true for common diseases and for those often treated in an outpatient setting."

## **FDA Warns That Recalled Flonase Spray May Contain Glass Particles.**

The New Orleans Times-Picayune (6/23, Krueger, 521K) reported the FDA said Flonase and other Apotex Corp. products have been recalled due to the potential of contamination by small glass particles in some bottles. The news follows a customer complaint "about a nasal spray containing the company's Fluticasone," and the FDA is warning "that glass particles could block the spray bottle's actuator and affect the pump's functionality" and injure users' nasal cavities if they use the product.

## **Op-Ed: FDA's Restrictions On Mifepristone Could Harm Women Experiencing Miscarriages.**

Dorothy Novick, MD, pediatrician in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, wrote for STAT (6/22, 27K) that women who suffer miscarriages should not be prevented by the Food and Drug Administration from accessing misoprostol. Dr. Novick said a "landmark clinical trial, published this month in the New England Journal of Medicine," found that 84 percent of "women experiencing first-trimester miscarriages...[given] a dose of misoprostol or...a combination of misoprostol plus mifepristone" completed the miscarriage "within two days, compared to 67 percent among women who got misoprostol alone." She added that the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists "has announced it is reviewing these findings to determine whether to update its clinical guidance and policy position on caring for women with miscarriage," adding that the FDA's restrictions could prevent women from accessing mifepristone.

## **NIH Cancels Alcohol Study Which Received Industry Funding.**

The Baltimore Sun (6/20, McDaniels, 570K) reported the NIH has canceled "funding of a highly criticized \$100 million study involving Johns Hopkins researchers that looked at whether one drink of alcohol a day can decrease the risk of heart disease and diabetes." According to the Sun, an NIH working group led an investigation which "found that employees from its National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism were in such frequent communication with [the] lead researcher...and the industry that it undermined the scientific integrity of the study." However, the NIH investigation determined that the "foundation

that raises money for the National Institutes of Health...did nothing wrong."

Faye Flam wrote for Bloomberg View (6/22, 4.46M) that "NIH Director Francis Collins was emphatic about the fatal nature of this study's flaws," telling Science that "many of the [NIH] staff who have seen the working group report were frankly shocked to see that so many lines were crossed."

The Toledo (OH) Blade (6/22, 212K) editorialized, "Dr. Collins' decision to end the study was in the best interests of science, the American public and NIH's credibility," adding, "But NIH under Dr. Collins just made a bold statement about the importance of science and ethics. It's a moment worth noting."

## **Op-Ed Critical Of NIH Over Its Now-Canceled Alcohol Study.**

Paul D. Thacker, former Senate investigator, wrote in the Washington Post (6/22, 15.68M) that NIH Director Francis Collins' decision to cancel the NIH's "noxious ethical problem" – its "alcohol consumption study that had been funded mostly by beer and liquor companies" that "seemed predetermined to find alcohol's benefits but not potential harms" – is an indicator of "intellectual corruption at our government research agencies." According to Thacker, "this was only the latest scandal involving hidden corporate influence," and in his time as an investigator, he "found that the agency often ignored obvious conflicts" and that "its industry ties...are never really addressed unless the agency faces media scrutiny." Thacker noted that National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism officials "courted alcohol-makers for several years to fund the study," adding that NIAAA Director George Koob "declined to fund research critical of alcohol advertising." Thacker called for "continued scrutiny of the NIH, by the public and Congress," to generate transparency.

## **Marijuana Addiction Poses Real Threat That Many Do Not Recognize, Experts Warn.**

The Washington Post (6/22, Vestal, 15.68M) reported that many people are unaware of the possibility of marijuana addiction, noting that "in the public health and medical communities, it is a well-defined disorder that includes physical withdrawal symptoms, cravings and psychological dependence." Some experts believe "it is on the rise, perhaps because of the increasing potency of genetically engineered

plants and the use of concentrated products, or because more users are partaking multiple times a day." The piece said that according to Dr. Nora Volkow, National Institute on Drug Abuse Director, "an estimated 2.7 million Americans meet the diagnostic criteria for marijuana dependence, second only to alcohol dependence." Susan Weiss, director of research on the health effects of marijuana at the NIDA, indicated "at the annual meeting of the American Society of Addiction Medicine in April...that marijuana can be addictive." She said, "But believe it or not...we're having a hard time convincing people that addiction exists."

**NIDA Director Discusses Factors That Have Led To Opioid Crisis.** The Atlantic (6/23, 3.08M) reported, "In 2016, 64,000 people died from drug overdoses in the U.S., most of them due to opioids. That's more than the number of Americans killed in the wars in Vietnam and Iraq combined." Three factors "led to those numbers, Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, a part of the National Institutes of Health, said at the Aspen Ideas Festival, which is cohosted by The Aspen Institute and The Atlantic." First, the epidemic "was started by a healthcare system that sought to minimize pain and suffering." Second, Volkow "said, this overprescription coincided with a massive flood of heroin in the 2000s from Mexico." Thirdly, she "said, heroin began to be laced by drug dealers with synthetic opioids, which are not only relatively easy to produce, but also stronger than heroin."

**Cancer Experts Discuss Ways To Reduce Risk Of Death Due To Prostate Cancer.** U.S. News & World Report (6/21, Schroeder, 1.97M) discussed how men can lower their risk of death due to prostate cancer through screening and treatment. The article quoted Dr. Serban Negoita, chief of the National Cancer Institute's Data Quality, Analysis, and Interpretation Branch, as saying that "in 2013, we noticed that the slope or the speed with which this rate of prostate cancer mortality declined in the past, kind of changed" based on the findings of the Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer released last month. Dr. Negoita, "lead author of the prostate cancer section" of the report, explained that the study found "age-adjusted prostate cancer death rates leveled off...and were all around 19 per 100,000 for the

most recent years captured." The article included experts' comments on the benefits and drawbacks of screening.

**Oncologist Who Uses Twitter To Decry Precision Medicine "Hype" Profiled.** NPR (6/24, Harris, 3.55M) reports Dr. Vinay Prasad, assistant professor of medicine at Oregon Health and Science University, "has made a name for himself calling out the hype surrounding precision medicine." A hematologist-oncologist who is "a prolific author" and active Twitter user, Dr. Prasad has been called a "professional troublemaker...as he tweets to his 20,000-plus followers." NPR reports on comments Dr. Prasad made at the American Society of Clinical Oncology annual meeting, and notes that the NCI-MATCH trial presented at the meeting indicated "disappointing" results among "150 patients who were matched to drugs based on their tumor's genetic fingerprint, rather than the type of tumor." Dr. Richard Schilsky, ASCO chief medical officer, is quoted as saying, "He's a bit of a provocateur. But frankly he's taking a very hard and objective look at a very complex area and...he's saying what's behind the curtain."

In a 4,000-word story profiling Dr. Prasad, the Cancer Letter (6/22, Goldberg) reported that Keith Flaherty, the ECOG-ACRIN chair of the NCI MATCH trial, said of the study, which Prasad referenced in one publication, "After accrual of nearly 6,000 patients to the centralized screening phase of the MATCH trial, we found that 19 percent of patients had molecular findings that permitted treatment assignment. ... Notably, this excludes the proportion of patients who were not eligible for treatment assignment in MATCH because of prior FDA approval or ongoing late stage trials in patients with those cancers types with those same molecular features. Our experience indicates that NGS testing was an efficient strategy for identifying patients for inclusion in MATCH."

In a 5,000-word story, the Cancer Letter (6/22, Goldberg) offered a review of Prasad's "thought experiment," his paper titled "Low-value approvals and high prices might incentivize ineffective drug development," to evaluate the commentary that has been billed by The New York Times as a study. The Times said Dr. Prasad's commentary indicated that "companies could theoretically test compounds they know to be ineffective with the hope of getting a false



positive result that would enable them to market a worthless medicine at an enormous profit."

The Cancer Letter (6/22, Goldberg) featured an interview with Dr. Prasad about the commentary, published in *Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology*, which argued that the "FDA is approving drugs too fast and on too little data, thereby benefiting drug companies, but not the cancer patients." Dr. Prasad discussed this assertion, saying that two "Government Accountability Office reports say FDA is not enforcing [post-marketing commitments] for surrogate approval," among other points.

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

### **House Passes "Sweeping Package" To Fight Opioid Crisis.**

In a 396 to 14 vote, the House on Friday passed "a sweeping package to fight the opioid crisis," approving measures "that include encouraging nonaddictive pain treatment and fighting the rise of synthetic drugs such as fentanyl," the Washington Post (6/22, Zezima, 15.68M) reported. The suite of legislation "would allow for increased research for nonaddictive pain medications, allow physician assistants and nurse practitioners to prescribe medications that treat opioid addiction and create opioid recovery centers."

The AP (6/22) reported the bill passed Friday "encourages states to increase coverage of treatment for substance abuse disorders through Medicaid." Foster youth and former prisoners "are among the populations targeted for enhanced coverage of their treatment." In addition, the legislation "seeks to expand the use of medications to treat opioid abuse."

Fierce Healthcare (6/22, Reed, 146K) quoted Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR) as saying, "This package is not Congress' first legislative response to this crisis, nor will it be our last. But it does include meaningful solutions that will update archaic policies, better equip our communities to respond to this evolving epidemic, and save lives."

The Washington Examiner (6/22, Leonard, 340K) quoted Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) saying, "While we still have a long way to go to solve this crisis, this legislation, which is made up of many Republican proposals, takes meaningful strides to help millions of Americans recapture their lost hopes and dreams." Meanwhile, the Washington Times (6/22, Howell, 460K) reported House

Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy "cast the bill in personal terms, recounting how his press secretary's brother died of an opioid overdose, while the White House said it supported its own effort to treat opioids abuse as a public health emergency."

CQ Roll Call (DC) (6/22, Raman, 117K) reported the House "considered seven amendments to the legislation. Six were adopted by voice vote," including an amendment "from Republicans Joe L. Barton and Mark Meadows and Democrat Ann McLane Kuster that would require the Food and Drug Administration commissioner to develop evidence-based prescribing guidelines for treating acute forms of pain." Also included was "an amendment from Republican John Curtis to require the Department of Health and Human Services to issue a report on current practices for prescribing opioids during pregnancy" and a "bipartisan amendment from Keith Rothfus and William Keating to require HHS to institute guidelines for when to prescribe the opioid overdose reversal drug naloxone." Another amendment included was from Democrat Maxine Waters and requires HHS "to survey groups that treat substance abuse to develop a plan to determine any gaps in services or funding for treating drug addiction."

The Hill (6/22, Sullivan, Brufke, 2.71M) reported "some say the legislation is not enough to make the large-scale changes needed to fight the epidemic." Addiction advocates "largely praise the measures as good steps forward, but say that much more work and funding is needed to tackle the issue's scale." Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ) "said the bill makes 'incremental changes to support those affected by the opioid crisis' but that it 'does not adequately deal with the magnitude of the crisis that this country is facing.'"

Modern Healthcare (6/22, Dickson, Subscription Publication, 239K) reported American Hospital Association Executive Vice President Tom Nickels "said the trade group was especially pleased to see overwhelming support for provisions that would expand the use of telehealth services for substance use disorder; guide improved care for infants with neonatal abstinence syndrome; and increase the types and capacity of providers offering medication-assisted treatment."

Politico (6/22, Ehley, 3.51M) reported the measure, which was endorsed by the White House, "combines more than 50 bills" and now



heads to the Senate, where lawmakers “are planning to take up their own opioid legislation.” A House Republican aide “said leadership hopes to conference the bills in July, though it could slide later into the summer depending on the Senate’s schedule.” The White House said in a statement “We urge the Senate to continue the bipartisan tradition of helping Americans who are affected by the crisis, to swiftly pass the legislation from the House, and to get these lifesaving bills to the President’s desk.”

**Handful Of Companies To “Reap Windfall” From Bills.** Politico (6/22, Cancryn, 3.51M) reported a small handful of companies “that have spent millions lobbying Congress could reap a windfall if any of the bills become law.” Alkermes, “which spent \$1 million lobbying in part to support a bill to fund full-service centers where people can detox, receive medical care and start treatment – a setup that could boost the fortunes of its best-selling product, anti-addiction treatment Vivitrol, which has been held back by the need for patients to fully detox before taking the drug.” Alkermes “has already attracted attention for its aggressive marketing tactics and Washington lobbying presence. Former HHS Secretary Tom Price toured the company’s Wilmington, Ohio, plant last year to tout Vivitrol – stirring controversy by belittling rival medication-assisted treatments that are more widely-used.”

### **Government-Funded Study Says Medicare, Medicaid, Private Health Insurance Fueled Opioid Epidemic.**

The Washington Examiner (6/22, Leonard, 340K) reported Medicare, Medicaid, and private health insurance “helped fuel the opioid epidemic because they made it too easy and inexpensive for patients to get opioids, suggests a government-funded study by researchers at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.” Authors of the study “conclude that insurers share responsibility for the massive toll of opioid deaths because they didn’t put in precautions on the drugs to make them harder to access.” The study was funded “by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, part of the Department of Health and Human Services.” It used input “from other federal agencies, including the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.”

Modern Healthcare (6/22, Johnson, Subscription Publication, 239K) reported, “Although insurers have made an effort to discourage opioid abuse by placing quantity limits, beginning therapy with less risky medications or requiring preapproval for prescriptions, they applied the same rules to non-opioid treatments and made it just as difficult for patients to access opioid alternatives, according to the study.”

### **Study: Online Black-Market Opioid Sales More Than Doubled After Reclassification.**

Reuters (6/22, Lehman) reported online black-market sales of opioid painkillers “more than doubled in the United States during the two years after these drugs were “rescheduled,” putting tighter restrictions on legal prescriptions and sales, according to a recent study.” Almost immediately after hydrocodone combination products were reclassified to schedule III in 2014, “the proportion of all drugs illicitly purchased in the U.S. from sellers on the ‘dark net’ that were in the opioid category began rising, reaching 13.7 percent in 2016.” The study was published in *The BMJ*.

### **Dartmouth Getting \$5.3 Million To Study Opioid Treatment For Pregnant Women.**

The AP (6/24) reports a research team at Dartmouth’s Geisel School of Medicine “is getting \$5.3 million to study medication-assisted treatment for pregnant women with opioid use disorders.” Officials “say combining medication with psychosocial services has been shown to significantly reduce poor outcomes for babies born to mothers with opioid use disorders, but it can be difficult for women to find providers.”

### **Study Says Counties With Highest Opioid Prescription Rates In 2015 Were More Likely To Vote For Trump.**

The Dallas Morning News (6/22, Rice, Reporter, 1.05M) reported that a study from University of Texas researchers found that “the counties with the highest opioid prescription rates in 2015 were also more likely to favor presidential candidate Donald Trump in 2016.” Support for Trump “was as strong a marker of an area’s opioid rates as some commonly used socioeconomic factors – such as household income, education levels and unemployment, the study said.” The study notes that an “estimated 11.5 million Americans misused prescription opioids and 2.1 million had

an opioid use disorder in 2016, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services."

The Huffington Post (6/24, Papenfuss, 4.32M) reported the areas "with the high rates of opioid use are largely concentrated in the Southern and Appalachian communities with high unemployment rates and lower median incomes." Trump support "might be explained simply by demographics: the same rural, economically depressed populations most severely affected by opioid use also happened to be the same communities where Trump gained strong support."

The Daily Intelligencer (NY) (6/22, 551K) reported the researchers "caution that their study does not suggest that people who are addicted to opioids voted for Trump – 'If you're stoned out on opioids, you're probably not voting,' lead author Dr. James Goodwin" said. Rather, "they say, it indicates a connection between the economic and social problems that lead to high rates of opioid use and support for Trump."

The Washington Times (6/22, Kelly, 460K) reported the researchers said, "The association of the presidential vote with chronic opioid use underscores the importance of cultural, economic, and environmental factors associated with the opioid epidemic." Newsweek (6/24, Hugo, 2.18M) reported the researchers "came to this conclusion by analyzing and cross-referencing data from the U.S. Census Bureau, medicare files and other datasets." They defined opioid dependency "as anyone who had 90 days or more of prescription given to them within a year."

NPR (6/23, Chisholm, 3.55M) reported, "In counties with higher-than-average rates of chronic opioid prescriptions, 60 percent of the voters went for Trump. In the counties with lower-than-average rates, only 39 percent voted for Trump." The findings were published Friday "in the medical journal JAMA Network Open."

### **Rhode Island Gets More Federal Funding To Combat Opioid Addiction.**

The AP (6/23) reported Rhode Island "has been awarded more federal funding to combat opioid addiction." The state's congressional delegation "say Rhode Island's share from a grant program at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will rise from \$2.1 million last year to \$12.5 million."

### **Portman Says STOP Act Will Help Combat Rise Of Fentanyl.**

Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) writes for the Toledo (OH) Blade (6/23, 212K) that "at the heart" of the drug epidemic "is the rise of fentanyl." He says Congress "should act with urgency because people are overdosing and dying every day. This problem isn't getting better – it's getting worse." Unlike other drugs transported over land, "most illegal fentanyl is manufactured in China and shipped into the U.S. through our own Postal Service." Citing results from a recent investigation, he says fentanyl manufacturers "prefer to ship through the Postal Service, and essentially guarantee delivery when doing so, because the Postal Service has lower security standards than private carriers." Portman says the result of the investigation "is legislation I introduced called the STOP Act." The STOP Act "will hold the Postal Service to the same standard as private carriers and require them to get this information on all overseas packages entering the U.S."

### **Rep. Rodgers Highlights Work On Combating Opioid Crisis.**

Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) writes for the Spokane (WA) Spokesman-Review (6/23, 164K) that one of "the greatest threats to America today is the growing scourge of opioid abuse and addiction." She highlights her and other lawmakers' response to the crisis, saying, "In 2016, we got the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act signed into law, and over the past two weeks, we in the House have passed dozens of bills to continue to fight this crisis and provide resources to those who need them."

### **Ridge: House Vote Brings Nation One Step Closer To Beating Opioid Crisis.**

Former Pennsylvania governor and senior adviser to Americans for Securing All Packages Tom Ridge writes for the Detroit News (6/25, 710K) "signs of progress" in the fight against opioids. Last week, the US Senate and House of Representatives "came to an agreement on the Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Prevention (STOP) Act, legislation by Michigan's own Congressman Mike Bishop designed to close a major security loophole in the global postal system that has fueled the opioid epidemic." And the House "just passed the bill, bringing us one step closer to cutting off the flow of dangerous drugs."

## **Study: Combination Of Opioids With Common Drug Risky In First 90 Days.**

Forbes (6/25, Disalvo, 10.34M) reports that a new study "shows that the combination of opioids with one common class of drugs in particular is especially risky in the first 90 days of concurrent use." Those drugs "are benzodiazepines (often called "benzos"), the class that includes alprazolam (Xanax), diazepam (Valium), and clonazepam (Klonopin), meds frequently prescribed to alleviate anxiety." The study "examined data from more than 71,000 Medicare Part D beneficiaries to find out how simultaneous use of opioids and benzos influence overdose risk over time," and it was published in JAMA Network Open.

## **Purdue Pharma Fires 350 Employees As Opioid Lawsuits Mount.**

The CBS Weekend News (6/23, story 8, 2:50, Quijano, 2.63M) reported Oxycontin manufacturer Purdue Pharma "laid off 350 workers this week, including the remainder of its sales team," as it prepares for "a wave of lawsuits accusing it of fueling the opioid epidemic." Former employees claim they were taught "to tell doctors that some patients might only appear to be addicted," despite having no studies to back up the assertion. Purdue disputes the claim, saying in a statement to CBS that Oxycontin sales "have been consistent with the information contained in the FDA-approved label."

## **Ontario Promoting Free Use Of Opioid Antidote Naloxone.**

In a report on the expansion of access to opioid antidote naloxone in Ontario, the Wall Street Journal (6/24, Monga, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) profiles Leon Alward, who has overdosed five times in the last four years, but is still alive because in four of the five emergencies, he received shots of naloxone. Alward has access to the drug for free from any of the 2,800 pharmacies that stock it in Ontario, which became possible after the province made it available without a prescription in 2016. The US has not done so, in part because, as critics say, such widespread availability could increase opioid use.

## **China Says US Should Do More To Cut Demand For Opioids.**

Reuters (6/25) reports China's drug control agency on Monday "said the United States should do more to cut its

demand for opioids to tackle the use of synthetic drug fentanyl, but it vowed to step up cooperation after Chinese production of the substance had been blamed for fuelling the U.S. opioid crisis."

## **Experts Discuss Government's Role In Physician's Ability To Treat Patients With Opioids.**

In its "Journal Reports" column, the Wall Street Journal (6/24, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) provides a roundup of articles from healthcare experts discussing whether the government should limit a physician's ability to prescribe opioids.

## **Gutman: PA Bills Threaten To Push State "Backward On Opioids."**

Abraham Gutman wrote for the Philadelphia Inquirer (6/22, 1.07M) that two bills under consideration by Pennsylvania legislators "threaten to take the commonwealth backward on opioids." The first "is an effort to limit already-scarce evidence-based treatment. The second limits physician discretion when prescribing opioids. If either bill becomes law, Pennsylvania will be worse off, not better."

## **Lopez: Needle Exchanges Help Combat Opioid Addiction.**

German Lopez wrote for Vox (6/22, Lopez, 1.66M) that needle exchange programs "are an exhaustively studied, proven public health intervention in the fight against opioid addiction – making them a key component in efforts to halt the opioid epidemic." However, Lopez said, needle exchanges "are also illegal in 15 states," adding, "Needle exchanges not only provide a place where people can obtain syringes for drug use or dispose them." The "driving idea" behind the programs "is this: Recognizing the reality that some people do use drugs, it's better to provide them somewhere to pick up new, sterile syringes (without the risk of spreading, say, HIV or hepatitis C infection) than to turn them away from potential public health services and force them to reuse needles despite the hazards."

## **MENTAL ILLNESS**

## **Jails, Prisons Are Places Of Punishment Unsuitable For People With Mental Illness Or Intellectual Disabilities, Psychiatrist Says.**

In an opinion piece in the Huffington Post (6/22, 4.32M),

psychiatrist Brian Barnett, MD, a post-doctoral fellow in the Partners Healthcare Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship and a clinical fellow in psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, discussed the plight of people with mental illness and those with intellectual disabilities who are incarcerated. Dr. Barnett observed, "People with mental illness and intellectual disability deserve a health care system that relies on nurses and physicians, not correctional officers. Jails and prisons are designed to be places of punishment, so let's stop filling them up with people who need healing."

**Colorado Schools To Receive Small Grants To Pay For Suicide-Prevention Training.** The Denver Post (6/24, 755K) reported that schools in Colorado "will soon divide \$400,000 into small grants to pay for suicide-prevention training for all campus employees, including teachers, front-desk attendants and custodians." Authorized through Colorado Senate Bill 272, "the school training grants – from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for each campus – will be available in January and must be used to train all school personnel on the warning signs of impending suicide attempts, diffuse crisis situations and connect troubled people to mental health services." The Post pointed out that "suicide is the second leading cause of death" in the state "for people ages 10-24." What's more, "the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that suicide rates in Colorado saw a 34.1 percent increase between 1999 and 2016."

## **HEALTHCARE FRAUD**

**Texas Supreme Court Says Xerox Responsible For Fraudulent Medicaid Dental Payments.** The Texas Tribune (6/22, Evans, 24K) reported the Texas Supreme Court ruled Friday that Xerox is responsible "for the \$1 billion in fraudulent Medicaid payments the company made while overseeing pre-authorizations for Texas Medicaid patients' dental work." The Supreme Court upheld a Texas Court of Appeals ruling that Xerox – and not the dentists – was responsible "for mismanaging and mis-authorizing payments for Medicaid dental services," according to the article.

**Former Physician Found Guilty In \$13 Million Healthcare Fraud.** The Dallas

Morning News (6/22, Krause, 1.05M) reported that Dr. Kelly Robinett, a "70-year-old Carrollton man was convicted Friday of four fraud charges for his role in a \$13 million home healthcare scam made possible by what prosecutors called his rubber stamp signature on fraudulent documents." FBI Dallas office special agent in charge Eric K. Jackson was quoted as saying, "The significance of this case highlights the responsibility health care workers, especially physicians and nurses, have to protect not only their patients, but prevent fraud against any federal health insurance program during the performance of their duties."

## **PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICING**

**New York State Demands Drug Maker Lower Cost Of \$272,000 Cystic Fibrosis Treatment.** The New York Times (6/24, Thomas, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports that "in a case that is being closely watched around the country," New York state health officials have said the new drug to treat cystic fibrosis, Orkambi, "is not worth its price" – \$272,000 annually – "and are demanding that Vertex give a steeper discount to the state's Medicaid program. The case is the first test of a new law aimed at reining in skyrocketing drug costs in New York's Medicaid program." Under the new law, "New York could also demand that Vertex disclose details about how it sets its price, including how much goes toward research and development or to other areas, like marketing." The Times adds that the debate over the drug "may soon become moot – earlier this year, the Food and Drug Administration approved a new cystic fibrosis drug, also made by Vertex."

**Hatch: To Reduce Prescription Drug Costs, Increase Competition.** Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) writes for CO Roll Call (DC) (6/25, 117K) that "80 percent of Americans consider the cost of prescription drugs unreasonable." At the same time, a "majority of Americans recognize that prescription drugs have improved countless lives." However, "if we truly want to reduce costs and make life-changing and life-saving medications accessible to all Americans, we must increase competition among prescription drugs – particularly new drugs that have the ability to cure diseases, but face limited competition."

## **HEALTH CARE & INSURANCE REFORM**

### **Experts Discuss Whether States Should Allow Insurers To Offer Health Plans With Fewer Mandated Benefits.**

In its "Journal Reports" column, the Wall Street Journal (6/24, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) provides a grouping of articles on the topic of whether states should allow insurers to offer "bare-bones" health plans that have fewer mandated benefits.

### **Two-Thirds Of Americans Disapprove Of DOJ's Decision To Support Lawsuit That Would Challenge Affordable Care Act's Protections For People With Preexisting Conditions, Poll Says.**

Forbes (6/24, 10.34M) contributor Bruce Japsen writes that 66% of Americans disapprove of the Department of Justice's "decision to support a lawsuit that would eliminate popular protections for patients with preexisting conditions under the Affordable Care Act," according to a poll conducted by Hart Research Associates for the group Protect Our Care. The poll also found that 47% of voters "strongly disapprove," while "11% strongly approve."

### **Increases In Exchange Plan Premiums May Hurt Republicans In This Year's Midterm Elections.**

Politico (6/24, Demko, 3.51M) reports premiums for exchange plans are expected to increase "by double digits in 2019, causing heartburn for politicians as voters will head to the polls within days of learning about the looming hit to their pocketbooks." However, the article points out that "unlike recent campaign cycles, when Republicans capitalized on Obamacare sticker shock to help propel them to complete control of Congress and the White House, they're now likely to be the ones feeling the wrath of voters."

### **Healthcare Likely To Be Key Issue In Minnesota's Congressional Races.**

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/22, Rao, 1.16M) reported healthcare is likely to be the dominant issue in Congressional races in Minnesota. The article explains that Republicans "have twice failed to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act

(ACA), while an increasing number of Democrats are advocating for single-payer health care – a difficult proposition even if they win back control of Congress in November."

### **Florida Attorney General Confronted By Protesters At Movie Showing.**

The Tampa Bay (FL) Times (6/23, Contorno, 832K) reported protesters confronted Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi outside a movie screening at Tampa Theatre. The protesters questioned Bondi's "recent actions on health care policy and her stance on immigration."

The Hill (6/23, Bowden, 2.71M) reported the movie being screened was a new documentary about Mr. Rogers called "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" One protester yelled, "What would Mr. Rogers think about you and your legacy in Florida? Taking away health insurance from people with pre-existing conditions, Pam Bondi! Shame on you!"

The AP (6/23), Fox News (6/23, Dedaj, 16.38M), and the New York Post (6/24, Lapin, 4.46M) also covered the story.

### **Texas Medical Association "Vehemently" Objects To AMA Opposing State's Lawsuit Challenging The Affordable Care Act.**

The Houston Chronicle (6/22, Deam, 2.14M) reported the Texas Medical Association "vehemently" objected to the American Medical Association and other medical groups, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, "filing a legal opposition to the Texas-led lawsuit seeking to declare the Affordable Care Act unconstitutional and ultimately unraveling the protections for patients with pre-existing conditions." On June 12, the Texas delegation at the AMA's national convention in Chicago called for the AMA to not file an amicus brief in the lawsuit. Dr. David Henkes, the chair of the state delegation at the AMA House of Delegates, said, "The ACA is an extremely unpopular political symbol in our state. We fervently urge the AMA not to file a brief in this case at this time."

### **Three Insurers That Offered Exchange Plans In South Florida In 2018 Have Refiled To Offer Plans In 2019.**

The South Florida Sun Sentinel (6/22, Hurtibise, 601K) reported the three insurers that offered exchange plans in South Florida in 2018 have refiled to offer

plans in 2019. Florida Blue, Molina Healthcare, and Ambetter "submitted 2019 rate proposals with the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation as required by June 20, along with four other companies that filed to sell plans in other areas of the state."

### **Indiana Exchange Plan Premiums To Increase 5.2% On Average.**

The Indianapolis Star (6/22, Groppe, 477K) reported premiums for exchange plans in Indiana are expected to increase an average of 5.2% in 2019, which may not "be as high as in some other states." The AP (6/24) reports CareSource Indiana Inc. is seeking an average increase of 10.2%, while Celtic Insurance Co. is seeking an average decrease of .5%.

### **Ohio Exchange Plan Premiums To Increase 8.2% On Average.**

The Cleveland Plain Dealer (6/22, Hancock, 1.03M) reported premiums for Ohio exchange plans will increase an average of 8.2%, "according to preliminary data released Friday from the Ohio Department of Insurance." The article points out that the average increase last year was 20%.

### **Administrative Costs For Blue Cross And Blue Shield Plans Grew In 2017 To Highest Levels Since 2013, Report Says.**

Modern Healthcare (6/22, Bannow, Subscription Publication, 239K) reported "Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans spent more on activities like underwriting, risk adjustment and provider audits in 2017 than in prior years, pushing the plans' total administrative costs to their highest level since 2013, the height of the expensive buildup to the Affordable Care Act," according to "a new report from the financial advisory firm Sherlock Company." The report was based on an analysis of "14 Blues plans with a combined 37.1 million members--roughly 35% of all Blues members."

### **Commentary Considers Health Reform.**

Several outlets offer opinions on health reform. Alfredo Ortiz, the president of the Job Creators Network, and Dr. Thomas Price, the former Secretary of Health and Human Services who is a senior healthcare policy fellow at the Job Creators Network, wrote in an opinion piece for The Hill (6/22, 2.71M) that the Department of

Labor's new rule expanding access to association health plans (AHPs) will help many small businesses and their employees gain health coverage. Ortiz and Price argue that the new rule will "provide expanded health-care coverage options for small business owners and their employees by making it easier for them to group together in associations, where they can enjoy similar regulations and economies of scale as their big business competitors."

The Bangor (ME) Daily News (6/23, 168K) editorialized that "even though it can't get a plan past Congress to repeal the Affordable Care Act, the Trump administration is intent on resorting to other means to unravel health coverage for low-income Americans." The editorial argues that the Trump Administration "has tried its utmost to sabotage federally subsidized, Affordable Care Act-sanctioned health insurance plans in the individual market," and "it's also set its sights on undermining Medicaid -- the decades-old health insurance program for low-income and disabled Americans."

Georgia Attorney General Chris Carr wrote in an opinion piece for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution (6/22, 1.09M) that "as Attorney General, I am committed to upholding the rule of law with each decision I make in order to protect the basic principles upon which our nation is founded." Carr argues that the US Supreme Court has twice upheld the Affordable Care Act as constitutional, but he believes "the court must take another look at this law now that Congress has eliminated" the individual mandate penalty.

Sen. Lamar Alexander wrote in an opinion piece for the Tennessean (6/22, 513K) that the Trump Administration's new rule "offered thousands of Tennesseans who are self-employed or who work at small businesses the opportunity to buy the same kind of lower cost health insurance with the same patient protections that roughly 160 million Americans get working for a larger employer." Alexander argues that through association health plans, people will be able "to obtain the same kind of less expensive health insurance that employees of large companies, like Walmart or Amazon, can buy today."

Elsa Pearson, MPH, a policy analyst at the Boston University School of Public Health, Austin Frakt, PhD, an associate professor at the Boston University School of Public Health, and Sandro Galea, MD, DrPH, the dean of the Boston University School of Public Health, wrote in an



opinion piece for the [Huffington Post](#) (6/23, 4.32M) that "there is a 20-year life-expectancy gap between the country's healthiest and least healthy counties, and a similar life-expectancy gap within counties." Pearson, Frakt, and Galea argue that "socioeconomic factors – such as income and race or ethnicity – influence health, perhaps even more so than access to health care," and that as a result "traditional health care alone is inadequate to address all the drivers of poor health."

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (6/24, 2.14M) editorializes that "Trump's Justice Department is supporting efforts by 20 states, including Texas, to strangle the Affordable Care Act." The editorial argues that "killing Obamacare would keep a promise Trump made to a constituency he believes will win him a second term. The millions who will lose health coverage if Obamacare dies would be collateral damage to him."

Heritage Foundation Senior Legal Research Fellow Paul Larkin Jr. writes for the [Bend \(OR\) Bulletin](#) (6/25, 92K) that "the constitutionality of Obamacare is an issue once again." He says that while the Supreme Court categorized the law as a tax, "now the fun begins. Effective January 2019, the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act reduces the payment for not purchasing health insurance to \$0." That matters because "once the Obamacare penalty disappears, so does the basis on which the Supreme Court upheld it." In Chief Justice Roberts' words, the "'essential feature of a tax' is it raises money. Soon, Obamacare won't. Live by \$1 in revenue, die by \$0 in revenue."

### **Humana Buying Two Hospice Chains.**

The [New York Times](#) (6/22, Abelson, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reported Humana is working with the two private-equity firms, TPG Capital and Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe, "to buy two hospice chains that together would create the industry's biggest operator with hundreds of locations in dozens of states." Last year, the group acquired "a division of Kindred Healthcare that offers both home health and hospice care," and then "in April, the same group said it planned to buy another large hospice outfit, Curo Health Services, owned by another investment firm, Thomas H. Lee Partners."

### **Cuomo Says Health Insurance Companies Cannot Discriminate Against Transgender New Yorkers.** [AM](#)

[New York](#) (6/24, 591K) reports, "New York will

protect transgender residents, Gov. Andrew Cuomo vowed Sunday, telling the state's Health Department to issue regulations to prevent health insurance companies from discriminating against transgender New Yorkers." The move, "he said, was intended to combat the Trump administration's repeal of a federal regulation that clarifies that the Affordable Care Act's nondiscrimination protections include those based on gender identity."

### **Massachusetts State Legislature Trying To Reconcile Differences Among Healthcare Bills.**

The [AP](#) (6/23) reported "Massachusetts House and Senate negotiators will be trying to reconcile differences in major health care bills that have cleared both chambers." Both chambers passed bills that aim "to stabilize health care costs by narrowing price disparities between large teaching hospitals and smaller community hospitals around Massachusetts."

### **Michigan 2019 Budget Keeps Title X Funding For Planned Parenthood.**

The [Detroit Free Press](#) (6/22, Shamus, 1.21M) reported that Michigan's 2019 state budget, which was signed into law Thursday by Gov. Rick Snyder (R), will not shift federal money for pregnancy prevention and family planning services away from Planned Parenthood. According to the article, the budget approved by the Legislature included language that would have moved federal Title X money for family planning services to health clinics and county health departments that do not provide abortions.

### **Rhode Island House Approves Bill To Expand Mastectomy Coverage.**

The [AP](#) (6/24) reports that the Rhode Island House approved legislation that ensures insurance covers all costs for a mastectomy. State law mandated insurance coverage for mastectomies in 2005, but insurers have since instituted high co-pays and deductibles. The new measure will require insurers to cover "all costs, without co-pays and deductibles."

## **HUMAN SERVICES NEWS**

### **Proposed Rules For Assisted Living Facilities In DC "Spark Outcry" From**

**Groups Including AARP.** The Washington Post (6/22, Thebault, 15.68M) reports that "scores of seniors and advocates crowded into a hearing room Friday" to oppose proposed legislation that would prohibit assisted living residences from admitting anyone who "is or has ever been diagnosed with moderate to severe dementia, or requires hospice care." The Alzheimer's Association and AARP also "want to remove another provision that would require residents who may be at risk of wandering to carry identification that includes their name and the name, address and phone number of their facility," arguing that doing so would be a violation of privacy.

**Wisconsin Foster Care Task Force Issues Report With Recommended Changes, Improvements.** The AP (6/23) said Wisconsin's Task Force On Foster Care issued its final report Thursday which indicated that the state "should provide children more education and career training." The report also recommends a focus on drug abuse.

**Mother Offers Tips For Getting Good Healthcare For Children With Disabilities.** Jamie Davis Smith, a Washington-based mother of four, wrote in the Washington Post (6/22, 15.68M) that as the parent of a child with disabilities, she is "all too familiar with the ins and outs of dealing with doctors, navigating the medical system and advocating for my daughter to get the best care possible." Smith discussed "some things that may help you get the best care for your children" with disabilities.

**Report Shows Parent Drug Abuse A Factor In Many Child Welfare Cases In Indiana.** The AP (6/23) discussed a review of Indiana's "troubled" child welfare agency found that parental drug abuse has led to a surge in children removed from their homes. The AP wrote, "Exacerbated by the opioid epidemic, parental drug abuse was a factor in the removal of 7,015 children from their homes in 2017. That accounts for 55 percent of all removals that year – up from just 28 percent in 2013." But while the Department of Child Services spent more than \$24.9 million on drug testing, only \$4.5 million was spent on treatment, the report found.

**Family Separation Is A Problem For US Citizens, Too.** The New York Times (6/22, Dewan, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reported on the various ways the US government separates families amid the controversy taking place at the US-Mexico border. The Times said the US government also separates children from family in the event of incarceration, and when removing children from troubled homes and placing children into foster care.

The Philadelphia Inquirer (6/22, 1.07M) wrote in an editorial that the "sad truth is that the United States has multiple policies – particularly related to the criminal justice system and child protective services – that separate children from their parents on a daily basis."

**US Policies Do Not Support American Families.** The New York Times (6/24, Badger, Miller, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports on the "deep contradiction about the family in American politics: Families make powerful symbols, valuable to politicians and revered by voters. But American policies are inconsistent and weak, relative to many countries, in supporting them." The Times highlights the Trump Administration's separation of immigrant children from their parents at the Mexican border, and adds that "the contradiction is also clear in many other realms, say critics on both the right and left: criminal justice, child welfare, family leave, child care, health care and education."

**Adoption Rates In Minnesota Experience "Sharp Decline."** The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/22, Prather, 1.16M) reported on the "sharp decline" of adoption numbers in Minnesota and said it "is the result of fewer unplanned pregnancies, less stigma associated with single motherhood, and changes to laws governing international adoption." According to the article, "in 2014, the most recent year for which data are available, there were an estimated 1,563 adoptions in Minnesota. Less than a decade earlier, there were 2,900 per year."

**Indiana Child Support Seeks Comments On State Guidelines.** The AP (6/24) reports that Indiana's Domestic Relations Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana is seeking comments on Indiana's Child Support Guidelines. According to the AP, the guidelines are used to make decisions about child

support in dissolutions of marriage, legal separations, paternity cases, and all other actions for child support.

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS**

**Op-Ed Considers Analysis Of US' Pandemic Preparedness.** Erin Blakemore wrote in the Washington Post (6/22, 15.68M) about contributor Ed Yong's feature for the Atlantic suggesting the US may not be prepared for a pandemic. Yong examining the "worst-case scenario: a public-health system caught off guard by a pandemic that spirals out of control," observing that too often in such cases, "a large-scale epidemic takes over public attention, then fades into obscurity when the danger subsides, taking public funding and the wherewithal to build better safeguards with them," according to the piece. Blakemore said that Yong "builds a convincing case for a national lack of preparedness that...could spell disaster when a new pandemic comes knocking," and "worries about President Trump's ability to take on an outbreak, especially given that he has left key positions unfilled."

**US Unprepared To Manage Epidemic Of Diseases Borne By Ticks, Insects, Experts Say.** On its website, CNN (6/24, Cohen, Bonifield, 82.6M) reports on the growing threat ticks and insects pose because of their capacity to quickly spread Lyme diseases and other ailments. According to CNN, "For years, experts have voiced concern that many local public health agencies are unprepared to control such pests and limit the spread of the diseases." The piece notes that a report by "the National Association of County and City Health Officials says 84% of programs to control diseases from mosquitoes need improvement," adding, "In 18 states, every program is falling short." One expert is quoted as saying, "We're, simply put, not ready, and we should be."

**Obama "Ebola Czar" Worries That Trump Administration May Not Address A Pandemic Effectively.** The Atlantic (6/23, Calamur, 3.08M) reported on remarks by Ron Klain, "President Obama's Ebola czar," during the Aspen Ideas Festival cohosted

by The Aspen Institute and The Atlantic. Klain discussed the looming threat of a pandemic and the impact of the Trump presidency on response efforts, saying, "There is a real reason for us to be scared of the idea of facing this threat with Donald Trump in the White House" because his "anti-science" stance and isolationist approach to pandemics would "be a serious threat to our security." Klain also spoke of gaps in preparedness related to leadership, funding, facilities and training, scientific understandings, policy, and global intervention.

## **MEDICARE**

**Medicare To Provide More Benefits For Chronically Ill.** In what the New York Times (6/24, Pear, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) calls "a rare instance of bipartisan cooperation on a major policy initiative," the Trump Administration and Congress are "revamping Medicare to provide extra benefits to people with multiple chronic illnesses, a significant departure from the program's traditional focus that aims to create a new model of care for millions of older Americans." The changes, says the Times, "tackle a vexing and costly problem in American health care: how to deal with long-term illnesses that can build on one another, and the social factors outside the reach of traditional medicine that can contribute to them, like nutrition, transportation and housing." The additional benefits "can include social and medical services, home improvements like wheelchair ramps, transportation to doctor's offices and home delivery of hot meals."

**State Officials Say "More Than 300,000" Minnesota Residents To Change Medicare Health Plan Next Year.** The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/22, Snowbeck, 1.16M) reported that Minnesota state officials said "more than 300,000 Minnesotans will be changing Medicare health plans next year...when a federal law eliminates certain health insurance options in the Twin Cities and across much of the state."

**Lab Charges Spike At Rural Hospitals.** Modern Healthcare (6/23, Bannow, Subscription Publication, 239K) reported on "a trend that's cropped up in recent years: exploding lab charges by some rural hospitals." Modern Healthcare said

insurers have accused rural hospitals of breaching contracts by billing for tests performed elsewhere and on out-of-state patients. The issue is now the subject of lawsuits and a congressional inquiry. According to the article, "an analysis of Medicare cost report data identified 21 hospitals whose outpatient lab charges exceeded 30% of the hospital's total charges in their most recent reports, either 2016 or 2017." The article added that "for comparison, the average outpatient lab-to-total charges ratio among all of the nearly 5,000 hospitals that filed cost reports was less than 9% in 2016 and about 12% so far for 2017."

## **MEDICAID & CHIP**

**Experts Debate Medicaid Work Requirements.** The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports that new guidelines issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services allow states to impose work requirements on Medicaid beneficiaries, constituting one of the biggest changes in the program's 50-year history. The Journal features a debate between Robert Kaestner, a professor at the University of Illinois Institute of Government and Public Affairs, and Sara Rosenbaum, the Harold and Jane Hirsh Professor in Health Law and Policy at the Milken Institute School of Public Health, who discuss the merits and challenges of imposing Medicaid work requirements.

**Michigan Governor Signs Medicaid Work Requirement Bill.** The Hill (6/22, Sullivan, 2.71M) reported that term-limited Gov. Rick Snyder (R) on Friday signed a controversial Medicaid work requirement bill. The law requires Medicaid recipients to "work for 80 hours per month, or be in school, job training or substance abuse treatment," but includes exemptions "for people who are disabled, pregnant, children or elderly." The bill previously included a provision exempting "people in counties with high unemployment rates from the work requirements," but that was removed after critics suggested it would disproportionately benefit white rural recipients.

Also reporting were MLive (MI) (6/22, Lawler, 983K) and the Washington Examiner (6/22, Leonard, 340K).

**Kansas Health Department Awards Contracts To Three Insurers To**

**Manage State's Medicaid Program.** The AP (6/22) reported the Kansas Department of Health and Environment awarded contracts to three insurers to manage the state's Medicaid program. The state renewed contracts with Sunflower State Health Plan Inc. and United Healthcare Midwest Inc., while the third contract went to Aetna Better Health of Kansas Inc.

The Lawrence (KS) Journal World (6/22, Hancock, 38K) reported the state did not renew its contract with Amerigroup. The article explains that under KanCare, the insurers "are paid a flat, per-person rate for managing the care of Medicaid recipients, including coordinating their care between primary health care providers and specialists, and reimbursing the providers for their services."

The Wichita (KS) Eagle (6/22, Marso, Shorman, 316K) also covered the story.

**Montana Advocates Move Closer To Vote Extending Medicaid Expansion.** Congressional Quarterly (6/22, Williams, Subscription Publication) reported that last week, Medicaid expansion advocates in Montana submitted to the state what they say are enough signatures to get the issue placed on the ballot this fall. If approved by voters, the initiative would extend the state's Medicaid expansion, which is set to end next year.

**Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center Could Lose Medicaid Funding.** The AP (6/23) reported that Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center in Texas could lose its Medicaid funding and was notified Friday that Medicare plans to halt funding to its heart transplant program on August 17. Federal officials, "raising concerns about two deaths in May, said the hospital has not done enough to fix shortcomings that endanger patients," according to the article. The AP said the funding withdrawal by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services "would threaten the hospital's viability, experts contend, depriving it of an essential source of funding," and added that the termination "could trigger private insurance companies to follow suit."

Also reporting were the Houston Chronicle (6/22, Hixenbaugh, Ornstein, 2.14M) and ProPublica (6/22, Hixenbaugh, Ornstein, 49K).

**Kenosha Boy To Visit Capitol Hill To Support Children's Health.** The

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (6/22, Glauber, 596K) reported that 12-year-old Gabe Johnson of Kenosha, Wisconsin will visit Capitol Hill Monday to discuss the importance of Medicaid and other children's health programs. The push is part of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin's Family Advocacy Day.

**Child Advocates Oppose South Carolina Medicaid Agency Push To Add Work Requirements.** The Charleston (SC) Post and Courier (6/24, Sausser, 292K) reports that child advocates in South Carolina are opposing a move by the South Carolina Medicaid agency to impose work requirements on low-income adults. Child advocates worry the plan will hurt parents and families, according to the article. Medicaid Director Joshua Baker "confirmed his department is negotiating with the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to draft a plan that would require adults on Medicaid to work at least 80 hours per month," the Courier writes.

## **HEALTH & MEDICAL NEWS**

**One-Third Of Older Patients Die In Hospital After They Are Put On Ventilators, Study Indicates.** The New York Times (6/22, Span, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reported that research indicates "one-third of patients over age 65 die in the hospital after they are put on ventilators." The findings were published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. According to the Times, physicians "are beginning to wonder if the procedure should be used so often."

**Robot-Assisted Radical Cystectomy For Invasive Bladder Cancer Linked To Short-Term Oncologic Outcomes Comparable To That Seen With Open RC, Research Indicates.** The Washington Post (6/22, Wan, 15.68M) reported that "robotic-assisted procedures have now become ubiquitous in some kinds of surgeries." According to the Post, "What once was seen as a technological marvel is commonplace in many hospitals." New research published in the Lancet indicated "there were no major differences in outcomes or complication rates in operations for bladder cancer."

**Advances In Cancer Treatment Do Not Mean An End To Chemotherapy, According To Cancer Experts.** NBC News (6/24, 5.76M) reports that although "cancer therapy is being transformed as immune therapies, targeted treatments based on DNA profiles and personalized treatments make stunning advances in some patients," that does not signal "an end to old-fashioned chemotherapy," according to cancer experts. NBC News adds that "chemotherapy is still a mainstay of most cancer treatment." Dr. Sumanta Pal, a board member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, said, "I would say that in my practice, it's still the majority that at some point in time will get chemotherapy."

**Researchers Discover Compound That Could Stop Cancer Cells From Spreading.** Newsweek (6/22, Georgiou, 2.18M) reported that researchers "have discovered" a "compound that could freeze cancer cells in their tracks and stop them from spreading, potentially making them easier to kill." Thus far, however, "the compound," called KBU2046, "has only been tested in models of human cells and so an approved drug based on it is still a long way off." The research was published in Nature Communications.

**"Older, Grayer" Workforce Offers Benefits To Employers.** The New York Post (6/24, Prafter, 4.46M) reports America is "older, grayer, and ready to compete for your job," as "by 2022, the number of American workers age 50 or older is due to increase by 62 percent, by which time it will make up 35 percent of our workforce, says Susan Weinstock, vice president of financial resilience for [AARP]." Weinstock stated that "people are working well into their golden years," due both to the "labor shortage" and also to employers' discovery of this "untapped resource" that is "highly engaged, much less likely to leave, and value the work." Weinstock also noted the benefits of generationally integrated workforces. The Post highlights a number of "age-friendly recruitment efforts and perks" from various companies, including Goldman Sachs' "returnship" program and Tufts Health Plan's active prioritization of experienced workers.

**Tech Companies Should Tap Older Adults To Improve Devices.** Similarly, CNBC (6/24, 4.81M) says that with the demonstrated ability of

new technologies from Amazon, Alphabet, and Apple to benefit older adults, the tech sphere can "speed up" its impact by "[hiring] people who understand the needs of this population. In other words, they should hire older Americans." CNBC interviews several experts on how common devices such as the Amazon Echo could be improved to better serve older adults. A "prevailing myth is that older people are less comfortable with technology than their younger counterparts," per CNBC, but "in fact, the vast majority of people over 65 have a cellphone," and AARP and others are responding to the "increased demand" by "offering classes to help older Americans get up to speed with the latest technology, including gadgets and apps to help them live independently for longer."

**Men's Shed Offers Older Men Community, Activity.** The Washington Post (6/22, Fallik, 15.68M) profiled the international program Men's Sheds, which is "sort of like a Boy scouts for adults," offering men, "usually of retirement age," a place to "learn new skills and work together on community projects" with a common set of tools and a community of others with similar interests. The organization's motto is "shoulder to shoulder," which describes how many men feel most comfortable relating to others. The idea came together after a public health conference that focused on men's health issues, among which is social isolation, and AARP Chief Medical Officer Charlotte S. Yeh stated that men "often identify with their job, and when they retire they think they are going to keep the same friends they've had in the workplace, but then they find they no longer share the same interests," and not all can successfully integrate into spousal networks.

**Column: Loneliness Affects All Ages But Is Preventable.** Health columnist Jane Brody writes for the New York Times (6/25, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) that while modern life seems to "promote connectivity," it "has had the opposite effect of fostering social isolation and loneliness, experts say." Brody describes her own experiences with loneliness and social isolation as a young adult, saying that the "18 to 24" age range "has the highest incidence of loneliness, as much as 50 percent higher than occurs among the elderly." However, Brody acknowledges "it's not just young people

who are lonely," as limitations due to chronic illness and mobility issues may struggle with "persistent loneliness." Brody highlights a program in Georgia that provides opportunities for caregivers to connect over painting, music, and dance "in partnership with AARP" and encourages readers to "consider making a date this week to meet a friend for coffee, dinner, a visit to a museum, or simply a walk," or "if nothing else, pick up the phone and have a conversation with someone."

**Report Finds Working Longer Can Help Retirement Savers Make Up Savings Shortfalls.** Jessica Dickler writes in a piece for CNBC (6/24, 4.81M) that "in a trade-off between working longer or saving more, a recent report found that delaying retirement for just three to six months has the same impact as savings 1 percent more of your salary over 30 years." The working paper from the National Bureau of Economic Research found that "boosting your retirement contributions by 1 percent for 10 years before retiring has the same effect as working a single month longer." Furthermore, "delaying Social Security past full retirement age lets your benefits grow by about 8 percent a year." T. Rowe Price Senior Financial Planner Stuart Ritter warned, however, that people should not "count on working longer to solve a shortfall caused by your not saving enough. Working longer feels more like a contingency than a strategy. The reality is most people want to retire as soon as they can."

**San Francisco Is "Worst" US City For Retires.** CNBC (6/24, Mercado, 4.81M) reports that a GoBankingRates analysis says San Francisco is the "worst" city for retirees in the US. It says that San Francisco residents face high living costs.

**Substance Abuse A Rising Problem Among Older Adults.** The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Ansberry, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports on the problem of dealing with an aging parent's alcohol problem. It says substance abuse is increasing among older adults, and their children are often at a loss about what to do. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration says the number of Americans 65 and older abusing drugs and alcohol is expected to double to 5.7 million by 2020.



### **AARP CEO Column: Millennials Helping With Caregiving.**

In a column in the San Diego Union-Tribune (6/22, 664K), AARP CEO Jo Ann Jenkins wrote that AARP just released a new study, "Millennials: The Emerging Generation of Family Caregivers," that reveals that millennials spend an average of 21 hours per week on caregiving duties. She explained that, compared with older caregivers, "millennials tend to keep it to themselves," with only 19 percent of them telling coworkers. Jenkins added that "perhaps most pressing" issue is caregiving costs, with the average respondent spending \$6,800 per year out of pocket on caregiving expenses.

### **Adolescents With Eczema May Not Use Topical Corticosteroids As Directed, Study Suggests.**

Reuters (6/22, Rapaport) reported researchers found that "adolescents with eczema who are prescribed topical corticosteroids to ease symptoms like itching and inflammation may not use their medicines as directed." The findings were published in JAMA Dermatology.

### **Patients Receiving Treatment For Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration May Be At Increased Risk Of Vision Loss In Connection With Cataract Surgery, Study Suggests.**

MD Magazine (6/22, Warren) reported researchers found "that patients receiving treatment for neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD) have a moderately increased risk of vision loss in connection with cataract surgery which may be related to choroidal neovascular (CNV) lesion activity." The findings were published in the American Journal of Ophthalmology.

### **US District Court Rules In Favor Of Eli Lilly's Drug Patent.**

Reuters (6/22, Sharma) reported a US District Court ruled in favor of Eli Lilly's patent on the Alimta (pemetrexed) vitamin regimen blocking Hospira Inc. and Dr Reddy's Laboratories from launching generics until the patent expires in May 2022. The article points out that the company "has faced several legal challenges to its right to avoid generic competition for" the drug.

### **Researchers Growing Plants In Space As Potential Source Of New Drugs.**

STAT (6/22, Boodman, 27K) reported researchers are growing plants in space at the International Space Station to examine whether the specimens produce molecules that could be used in pharmaceuticals. The article highlights the company Space Tango, which is based in Lexington, Kentucky, and "helps researchers and companies set up experiments on the space station."

### **FDA May Approve First Cannabis-Derived Drug For Two Forms Of Epilepsy.**

The Washington Post (6/23, McGinley, 15.68M) "To Your Health" blog reported the Food and Drug Administration may approve GW Pharmaceuticals' Epidiolex (cannabidiol) "for two of the most severe types of childhood epilepsy" Dravet and Lennox-Gastaut syndromes. If the agency does approve the drug it would be the first cannabis-derived drug approved in the US.

### **The Scripps Research Institute Is Now Conducting Clinical Trials.**

The San Diego Union-Tribune (6/24, Fikes, 664K) reports The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) is now conducting clinical trials, which the article points out is "typically done by for-profit companies." The article reports that TSRI has long been known for conducting basic research, but an affiliate of the institute "recently started clinical testing of a drug to reverse osteoarthritis by regenerating cartilage." If the drug succeeds, then it may be financially beneficial for TSRI, which "has been running annual deficits as high as \$20 million in recent years."

### **Oklahoma Conservatives' Views On Medical Marijuana Are Changing.**

The AP (6/23, Murphy) reported on the "growing group of traditionally conservative Republican voters in Oklahoma" who have shifted their position on medical marijuana. The AP said residents are set to vote on a measure Tuesday that could add Oklahoma to the increasing list of states that have "legalized some form of pot." The article added, "Among the reddest states in the country, Oklahoma has for decades embraced a tough-on-crime philosophy that includes harsh penalties for drug crimes that has contributed to the state now leading the nation in the percentage of its

population behind bars. But voters' attitudes are changing." In 2016, "Oklahomans voted to make all drug possession crimes misdemeanors over the objection of law enforcement and prosecutors."

### **California Says 374 Terminally Ill Residents Committed Medically Assisted Suicide In 2017.**

The AP (6/22, Thompson) reported that 374 terminally ill Californians committed medically assisted suicide in 2017, out of 577 people that received life-ending drugs, the California Department of Public Health revealed Friday. In the first full year the option was legal, 90 percent of those who died were over 60, "about 95 percent were insured and about 83 percent were receiving hospice or similar care."

### **Trump Administration Resumes Approving Young Physician Visas.**

Forbes (6/22, 10.34M) contributor Bruce Japsen wrote that the Trump Administration has resumed issuing visas to allow international medical graduates into US residency programs "after a delay – and some denials – of allowing these doctors-in-training into the country." The Association of American Medical Colleges said that "clarifying guidance has been issued internally to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services staff conducting reviews" of medical residents applying for H-1B visas. Japsen said that "the timing of the guidance from USCIS is key. Most residency programs begin by July 1 so delaying non-U.S. international medical graduates is critical."

### **Another US Embassy Worker Confirmed Hurt By Mystery Cuba Incidents.**

The AP (6/22, Lederman, Lee) reported medical tests have confirmed that another US embassy worker has been affected by mysterious health incidents in Cuba, the State Department said, bringing the total number to 25. The new "medically confirmed" worker is one of two who were recently evacuated from Cuba after reporting symptoms.

### **Researchers Using AI To Predict Fatal Conditions.**

Bloomberg News (6/22, Bass, 4.46M) reported that researchers are using artificial intelligence to examine data points "from hours or even days before the onset of a crisis to

see which combinations of factors might have predicted a fatal condition." However, "a big gap still exists between promising research and clinical success." Because physicians are using these programs to make life-and-death decisions, they "want what they call explainable AI, meaning systems that go beyond a simple warning to offer an explanation of why a patient has been flagged," according to the article.

### **Minnesota Patients Sedated By Ketamine Were Enrolled In Hennepin Healthcare Study Without Consent.**

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/23, Mannix, 1.16M) reported that Hennepin Healthcare has been conducting studies "for years" on ketamine, which the hospital's leadership says can be vital when paramedics respond to calls of severely agitated or aggressive people. The current study, which began last August requires no consent from patients whose data can be used for research, but gives the subject the option to opt out afterward, according to the article. The role of police allegedly encouraging or directing the use of ketamine by paramedics has generated outrage among community members and elected officials following a Star Tribune investigation.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (6/23, 1.16M) wrote in an editorial these instances are "a patient education responsibility on which the county-run health care system is falling short." The Star Tribune added, "The responsibility to educate the public and review potential policy changes isn't limited to just the Minneapolis police and City Council. The state's largest county and its leaders must step up and do better." The paper noted that "a physician representing the American College of Emergency Physicians – Dr. Howard Mell of the Chicago area – suggests that ketamine is commonly used by emergency medical personnel in other parts of the country and that 62 uses may be low for a metro area this size."

### **Walmart Secures Patent For Blockchain-Based Health Records.**

Fortune (6/22, Mukherjee, 3.91M) reported that Walmart won a patent last week for a system that would house medical records on blockchain. The purpose behind the system is to allow first responders to access medical data from a patient in the case of an emergency when they cannot communicate.

### **Opinion: Give Women Access To Birth Control To Help Stop Unwanted Pregnancies.**

Trudi Inslee, Washington state's first lady and chair of Upstream Washington's advisory council, writes in the Seattle Times (6/24, 1.15M) that Washington is "proudly strengthening our efforts to expand women's health care by launching a public-private partnership to make the full range of birth-control methods more widely available to women." Inslee writes, "To reach this goal, the Washington State Department of Health and the state Health Care Authority will join forces with the nonprofit Upstream USA in support of their mission to expand opportunity across the country by reducing the rate of unplanned pregnancies."

### **Opinion: Lawmakers Should Begin Investigating CTE In Hockey.**

Ken Dryden, a former goaltender for the Montreal Canadiens and member of Canada's Parliament between 2004 and 2011, writes in the Washington Post (6/24, 15.68M) about recent video depositions related to a concussion lawsuit brought against the National Hockey League by about 150 former players that show several NHL officials denying a correlation between concussions and chronic traumatic encephalopathy. Dryden says "just as Congress held its first hearing about brain injuries and professional football in 2009, lawmakers in the United States and Canada must surely be readying themselves to start asking questions about the slippery sport of hockey."

### **Experts Debate Whether Physicians Should Ask Patients About Gun Use.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) features an interview with Paul Hsieh, a physician and co-founder of Freedom and Individual Rights in Medicine, and Megan Ranney, an associate professor at Alpert Medical School at Brown University, in which they debate the question of whether physicians should make it part of their routine to talk to patients about gun use.

### **More Hospitals Launching Online Price Estimators To Improve Transparency.**

Modern Healthcare (6/23, Meyer, Subscription Publication, 239K) reported that a growing number of hospitals is working with vendors to offer online price estimates of common

services. The move follows growing demand from patients in high-deductible health plans who want to shop around and know their financial exposure in advance. Modern Healthcare added that providers "face mounting pressure from regulators and consumers to be transparent about costs, especially given increasing public anger about unexpected large bills." The article said "CMS recently proposed a rule requiring hospitals to publish online a list of their standard charges in a machine-readable format and update the information at least once a year."

### **Sleep Apnea Treatment May Be Associated With Improved Sex Life, Study Suggests.**

Reuters (6/22, Rapaport) reported that research suggests "adults with sleep apnea...may have a better sex life when they wear breathing masks to bed." In the study, participants with the condition "were all prescribed nighttime treatment with masks connected to a machine that provides continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)." Researchers found that a "year later, the...patients who stuck with CPAP treatment had greater improvements in sexual quality of life than the 110 people who didn't keep up with treatment." The findings were published in JAMA Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

### **Analysis: Americans Entering Retirement In Worse Financial Shape Than Previous Generation.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/22, Gillers, Tergesen, Scism, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) covered its analysis of older Americans' financial preparedness for retirement, showing that more than 40 percent of households headed by people aged 55 through 70 do not have enough resources to maintain their standard of living in retirement. The study indicated that Americans entering retirement have high average debt and limited retirement funds.

### **Nursing Home Surveillance Cameras Prompt Divisions Among Providers, Advocates.**

Next Avenue (6/22, 25K) evaluated the pros and cons of adding a security camera to a loved one's nursing home room in light of the fact that nationwide, "state legislatures are weighing in on" the technology, which "advocates say could help prevent or catch elder abuse and neglect." The article noted that in New Jersey, the state loans "hidden cameras to any

family who suspects their loved one is being mistreated in a long-term care facility." Jon Dolan, president and CEO of the Health Care Association of New Jersey, said, "Now, if this were done on a recording device with the sanctioning of law enforcement in a probable cause situation and we needed to keep it confidential, I would fully advise my facilities to participate in such an investigation. ... But the idea that we're just going to give these cameras out to people and let them do whatever they want with them because the Attorney General says so? I don't think so."

**People Fearing Onset Of Alzheimer's Turn To Lifestyle Changes After Drug Candidates Fail.** The Boston Globe (6/24, Weisman, 945K) reports that many people who fear developing Alzheimer's disease "are turning to research that suggests lifestyle changes – from fitness regimens and brain games to better diets and social interactions – might help stave off the disease or push back its onset." The trend comes as people await drugs that could ward off the disease, although the Globe says failure after failure "has dashed hopes for a medical miracle."

**Roche Touts Trial Showing Tecentriq Cocktail Improved Survival In Small Cell Lung Cancer.** Reuters (6/25, Miller) reports that on Monday, Roche "said...a cocktail of its immunotherapy Tecentriq with chemotherapy boosted survival of patients with previously untreated extensive-stage small cell lung cancer compared with chemotherapy alone." In a statement, the company said, "These are the first positive Phase III survival results for any immunotherapy-based combination in the initial treatment of extensive-stage small cell lung cancer."

**Cruise Ship With Norovirus Outbreak Stops In Alaska.** The AP (6/22) reported the CDC recently said it detected an outbreak of norovirus on a cruise ship docked in Alaska. So far, media reports indicate 73 people have been sickened "on the Holland America cruise ship Zaandam...which is carrying more than 2,000 passengers and crew."

**Ohio Declares Statewide Hepatitis A Outbreak.** The AP (6/22) reported the Ohio health department "says it's declaring a statewide outbreak of hepatitis A" after officials have

counted 79 cases this year, many of which "are linked to a multi-state outbreak in neighboring states." This year's cases "are nearly twice as many than what was reported all of last year."

**Florida Teen Becomes First Human Case Of Keystone Virus.** USA Today (6/22, May, 11.4M) reported a 16-year-old Florida teen has become the "first confirmed case of the Keystone virus in humans...leading researchers to believe the virus could be widespread" in the northern part of the state. The article said, "University of Florida identified the Keystone virus in the teenager after he visited an urgent care clinic in North Central Florida in August of 2016," and medical experts "suspected he had Zika virus." Upon determining it was Keystone virus, researchers published a report of his case "earlier this month in the peer-reviewed medical journal *Clinical Infectious Diseases*."

**HIV-Positive Community Celebrates CDC's Acknowledgment That Treatment Can Nearly Eliminate Risk Of Transmission.** The Spokane (WA) Spokesman-Review (6/24, Alexander, 164K) reports that the "CDC's acknowledgment that people in treatment" for HIV "can get to a place where they can't transmit the virus feels like a new step for the HIV-positive community." According to the article, the agency "finally acknowledged what years of research has shown: HIV-positive people in treatment who have an undetectable amount of the virus in their blood have 'virtually no risk' of transmitting the virus sexually to another person," recognition which many people who are HIV-positive have celebrated.

**New Jersey Health Officials Warn About Measles Exposure.** The Newark (NJ) Star-Ledger (6/22, Livio, 1.58M) reported that people who visited a Burlington County, New Jersey, gym or medical offices in Burlington and Camden counties this month "may have been exposed to measles, the state Health Department announced Friday." A person who was infected "who had just returned from an international trip visited a gym," physician offices, and Virtua Memorial Hospital. Officials warned that people who were exposed may not have developed symptoms yet.

**Maine, New Hampshire Beset By Whooping Cough Outbreaks.** Seacoast Online (NH) (6/23, LaCasse, 39K) reported that cases of whooping cough are rising Exeter, New Hampshire, and York, Maine, have experienced outbreaks of the respiratory disease in their schools." Exeter High School has seen 22 cases, and in York, officials confirmed six cases, "which according to the Maine Center for Disease constitutes a outbreak because there were three or more confirmed cases in 21 days."

**Op-Ed: Too Few Older Cancer Patients Included In Immunotherapy Studies.** Ankur R. Parikh, DO, medical director of precision medicine at Cancer Treatment Centers of America, wrote in a piece published in Oncology Times and carried by STAT (6/22, Parikh, 27K) that cancer immunotherapy may not be as effective for patients over the age of 65, "who make up half of cancer patients." Parikh explained that these patients are "poorly represented in clinical trials," and noted that because "immunosensescence may change patients' responses to drug therapies, we can't predict responses to it among older individuals based on studies that included only non-geriatric populations." Parikh called for future studies to include more older cancer patients to improve treatment outcomes.

**Debate Continues On Whether Robotic Prostate Surgery Is Better Than Traditional Surgery.** The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports that robotically assisted laparoscopy is starting to replace traditional open surgery for patients with prostate cancer. The Journal examines the debate on whether using the technology improves outcomes enough to outweigh its higher cost.

**Opinion: Iowa Attorney General Is "Completely Right" About Youth Smoking, E-Cig Use.** Joel Nocera writes in Bloomberg View (6/22, 4.46M) that Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller is making the case that youth use of Juul "was much ado about not a whole lot" because around 80 percent of use by teenagers "is experimental." He added that there is little evidence that young peoples' use of e-cigarettes leads to cigarette smoking. Nocera adds, "And if

you look at the statistics, you'll see that he's completely right about what's been happening to youth smoking."

**One In Five Parents Don't Talk To Kids About Safety Issues At Amusement Parks, Poll Finds.** Reuters (6/22, Crist) reported, "One in five parents don't talk to their kids about safety issues at amusement parks, especially what to do if they get lost," researchers concluded after analyzing data from "a poll by the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan." The poll data were "based on responses from more than 1,200 parents with at least one child between ages 5 and 12 in early 2018."

**Exposure To Medical Marijuana Advertising May Contribute To Increased Use Through Adolescence, Behavioral Scientist Says.** In a perspective piece for the Washington Post (6/22, D'amico, 15.68M) "Health & Science" blog, Elizabeth J. D'amico, PhD, "a clinical psychologist and senior behavioral scientist at the Rand Corporation," wrote, "Since recreational marijuana became legal this year, advertising for the drug has gotten out ahead of regulations that could restrict where and how teens are exposed to such promotional displays." D'amico cited research finding that "teens who reported seeing more medical marijuana advertising were more likely to report having used marijuana in the previous 30 days, and they were more likely to say they expected to use it within the next six months." D'amico observed, "These responses suggest that exposure to medical marijuana advertising may not only play a significant role in shaping teen attitudes about the drug but it may also contribute to increased use and related negative consequences throughout adolescence."

**ACOG Releases Immunization Guide For Pregnant Women.** NPR (6/25, Simmons-Duffin, 3.55M) reports that for the first time, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists "has released a one-page immunization guide for pregnant women that spells all of this out." The goal "is for it to be easily posted in doctors' offices, 'so that it becomes more automatic and part of everyday prenatal care,' says Dr. Laura Riley, one of the guide's

authors and chair of the ACOG immunization work group."

### **Scientists Developing Process To Form Blood Vessels To Simulate Heart Disease, Test Drugs.**

STAT Plus (6/22, Cooney, Subscription Publication, 27K) reported on a process developed by Marsha Rolle, associate professor of biomedical engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, to build a "more accurate model of healthy blood vessels as well as damaged ones, hoping to learn more about cardiovascular diseases and whether drugs will effectively treat them." The article explained, "Based on this model, she and collaborators at Yale have created blood vessels derived from the cells of people with a genetic heart condition, supraventricular aortic stenosis, recapitulating the disease in a test tube."

### **Venture Capitalist Explains Investments In Artificial Intelligence.**

STAT Plus (6/22, Robbins, Feuerstein, Garde, Subscription Publication, 27K) interviewed Vijay Pande, a venture capitalist, to discuss how life sciences firms are using and investing in artificial intelligence. Pande explained, "I think traditionally there have been two types of investors," tech investors and biotech investors, "and I think what we've been doing, and others as well, as I think really are a new type of investing, where these are companies that are in health care and biology, but they can be built like tech companies, and so they have to have elements of both." Pande adds, "So they have to have the rigor to...make sure that test is accurate, to understand even just what you have to do to get into market, but also to build a company like a tech company, to build it by engineering."

### **Senators Ask FTC To Examine Pay-To-Delay Agreements On Biosimilars.**

STAT Plus (6/22, Silverman, Subscription Publication, 27K) reported that Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Chuck Grassley (R-IA) are asking the Federal Trade Commission to investigate "whether so-called pay-to-delay deals are preventing biosimilars from reaching Americans sooner than the drugs would otherwise and, consequently, are increasing costs for the health care system." In a letter to the FTC, "The lawmakers did not allege the companies have violated antitrust laws, but they wrote to the FTC

that 'while such terms in patent settlement agreements may not always be inappropriate, the incentives for parties to delay biosimilar entry are present, and biologic markets could be susceptible to patent settlement abuse.'"

## **GLOBAL HEALTH**

### **Algeria Abandons 13,000 Migrants In The Sahara.**

The AP (6/25, Hinnant) reports that Algeria "has abandoned more than 13,000 people in the past 14 months, including pregnant women and children, stranding them without food or water and forcing them to walk, sometimes at gunpoint, under temperatures of up to 48 degrees Celsius (118 degrees Fahrenheit)." In Niger, "where the majority head, the lucky ones limp across a desolate 15-kilometer (9-mile) no-man's-land to Assamakka, less a town than a collection of unsteady buildings sinking into drifts of sand." Others, "disoriented and dehydrated, wander for days before a U.N. rescue squad can find them. Untold numbers perish along the way."

### **Non-Invasive Malaria Test Wins Africa Prize For Engineering Innovation.**

The AP (6/24, Muhumuza) reports Brian Gitta, a 25-year-old Ugandan computer scientist, recently won "a prestigious engineering prize for a non-invasive malaria test kit that he hopes will be widely used across Africa." Gitta won the Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation, which is bestowed by "the Royal Academy of Engineering in Britain [and] comes with £25,000 (\$32,940)," for his "test kit known as Matibabu" which shines "a red beam of light onto a finger to detect changes in the shape, color and concentration of red blood cells, all of which are affected by malaria. The results are sent within a minute to a computer or mobile phone linked to the device."

### **Ebola Vaccines Help Foster Improvements To Outbreak Response Efforts.**

Scientific American (6/23, Maron, 3.12M) reported on the role of Ebola vaccines due to an outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in sparking improvements to outbreak response strategies. In the DRC, 1,611 people have been vaccinated with a candidate from Merck, and in tandem with a shot from Doctors Without Borders, "in total more than 3,000 vaccines have been administered in the country." While public health officials "say they are far from



declaring the outbreak over," they continue to keep "careful surveillance" as they tackle "the difficulties of continuing to monitor the vaccinated individuals for the three-week period following their shots."

**Op-Ed: Hong Kong Should Pass Official Policy Encouraging Older Workers.** Anisha Bhaduri writes for China Daily (6/25, 5K) that rising life expectancies and growing older populations mean "Hong Kong must make concrete efforts to retain elderly people in the workforce," as residents 65 and over will make up almost 40 percent of the city's population by 2066. The statistics have special "poignancy" due to the recent "retirement of Hong Kong's legendary entrepreneur Li Ka-shing just shy of 90 and the election of Mahathir Mohamad as Malaysia's prime minister at 92," which dismantle "the conventional perception when it comes to the elderly." While Hong Kong currently "has no official retirement age...perceptions seem to be changing with more and more companies willing to retain employees beyond 60," and Bhaduri encourages Hong Kong to pass an "official retirement policy" that "will not only lend a formal structure to workforce management, but also put in place guidelines aimed at enhancing productivity with a specific demographic reality in mind."

**Older Chinese Villagers Benefit From Yoga Pursuits.** The New York Times (6/24, Wee, Chen, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports the residents of Yugouliang, China have undergone a yoga revolution, led by one official who "had a eureka moment" for an "audacious plan that seemed out of place" in the small village, where the average age is 65 and most residents "survive by tending to their cows and sheep and small plots of land." Despite initial skepticism, ultimately, a village team entered in a provincial competition and won an award for "best collective team." While the original plan to "[set] off a tourism boom could be difficult to achieve" due to the remote nature of the village, according to the Times, the "yoga-strengthened residents...save on medical costs" and report reduced pain. The Times identifies "China's rapidly aging population [as] one of the most pressing issues facing the ruling Communist Party," saying that "at least 50 million older Chinese have been left behind by the

country's economic boom" in rural regions, and "many struggle with poverty and depression."

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

**GOP Lawmakers Say DOJ Less Than Cooperative With House Russia Investigation.** The Washington Times (6/24, Mordock, 460K) reports that Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC) on Saturday "challenged" an AP report which said the Justice Department had given lawmakers documents related to the investigation of Russian election meddling. Meadows tweeted, "New reports of DOJ/FBI compliance with document requests are NOT accurate. While they have turned over additional documents, the new documents represent a small percentage of what they owe. The notion that DOJ/FBI have been forthcoming with Congress is false."

Meanwhile, House Judiciary Chairman Bob Goodlatte told Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (6/24, Bartiromo, 1.45M) that some of the text messages between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page "have been very enlightening" but "they raise as many questions as they answer." Goodlatte added that "there is a lot of question about the cooperation of the FBI because of the concern there are people still there that don't want the information we need to be provided." And "that's why I issued a subpoena that resulted in changes. ... We have an office at the Department of Justice, a reading room where a million documents reside" and "we can examine all of those documents." Rep. Peter King (R-NY) said on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (6/24, Bartiromo, 1.45M) that there is "continual bad faith from the FBI and the Department of Justice." He said, "This was delayed and delayed. We got this response" and "the response is inadequate."

Rep. John Ratcliffe (R-TX) said on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (6/24, Bartiromo, 1.45M), "What's remarkable is that it wasn't partisan Republicans" but "this is the FBI's own independent referee saying he's deeply troubled and concerned that it is Peter Strzok and other Trump hating agents...collecting evidence and making every decision for the first nine months of the investigation that by definition is prejudicial to the fair...administration of justice."

**Warner: "Buckle Up" For More Revelations From Mueller.** The Washington Examiner (6/24, Lim, 340K) reports

that in remarks at the DSCC's annual Majority Trust retreat on Martha's Vineyard on Friday, Sen. Mark Warner, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, told those in attendance "that they should 'buckle up' for more revelations in the Russia investigation in the coming months, boastfully joking that there was information only known to himself and special counsel Robert Mueller." Warner quipped, "If you get me one more glass of wine, I'll tell you stuff only Bob Mueller and I know. ... If you think you've seen wild stuff so far, buckle up. It's going to be a wild couple of months."

**Trump To Campaign For McMaster In South Carolina Today.** In what the AP (6/24, Kinnard) casts as the next test of President Trump's "effort to bend the Republican Party to his will," South Carolina voters on Tuesday will "choose between two GOP gubernatorial candidates who both claim to be Trump acolytes." Trump has backed his longtime supporter incumbent Gov. Henry McMaster, "who failed to win the GOP primary outright earlier this month," and faces a runoff election "against businessman John Warren, a first-time politico who some see as more like Trump himself." The AP says the race "is coming down to a question of loyalty. The White House is throwing everything at its disposal into the race to save McMaster, who went out on a political limb for Trump at a crucial point in the 2016 Republican presidential primaries." Trump has tweeted several times in support of McMaster over the past week, and he "will stump for McMaster on Monday afternoon in West Columbia."

**Trump Mistakenly Endorses Wrong Clay Higgins On Twitter.** The Washington Examiner (6/24, Lim, 340K) reports President Trump "faced a hurdle on Sunday in properly thanking and endorsing" Rep. Clay Higgins (R-LA) "for his support of the Trump administration's agenda when he 'mentioned' the wrong Clay Higgins on Twitter." In a tweet that has since been corrected, Trump said, "@ClayHiggins18 has been a great help to me on Cutting Taxes, creating great new healthcare programs at low cost, fighting for Border Security, our Military and are Vets. He is tough on Crime and has my full Endorsement. The Great State of Louisiana, we want Clay!" The Examiner notes that Twitter user @ClayHiggins18 "appears to be a Georgia Tech

student, who has a private account on the social media platform," whereas the Louisiana Republican's Twitter handle is @RepClayHiggins.

**Trump Criticizes Fallon For Not Being "A Man" After Interview.** The Washington Examiner (6/24, Lim, 340K) reports President Trump called on late night host Jimmy Fallon to "be a man" on Sunday after "multiple reports that Fallon regrets ruffling the hair of the then-presidential candidate in an interview before the 2016 election, despite Trump's claims Fallon called him shortly after the appearance to say the pair earned 'monster ratings.'" Trump tweeted, "@jimmyfallon is now whimpering to all that he did the famous 'hair show' with me (where he seriously messed up my hair), & that he would have now done it differently because it is said to have 'humanized' me-he is taking heat. He called & said 'monster ratings.' Be a man Jimmy!"

**Virginia Restaurant Owner Does Not Regret Ejecting Sanders.** USA Today (6/24, Bacon, 11.4M) reports that White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders' "unceremonious eviction" from the Red Hen restaurant in Lexington, Virginia. The restaurant's Facebook page "was awash with commentary, much of it bitterly criticizing owner Stephanie Wilkinson" for asking Sanders to leave. Other comments were in support of the restaurant. The Washington Times (6/24, Richardson, 460K) reports that Wilkinson has "no regrets" about asking Sanders to leave, and she "insisted Saturday she would do it all over again, saying people need to 'uphold their morals.'" Wilkinson told the Washington Post, "I would have done the same thing again. ... We just felt there are moments in time when people need to live their convictions. This appeared to be one." For her part, Sanders tweeted on Saturday, "Last night I was told by the owner of Red Hen in Lexington, VA to leave because I work for @POTUS and I politely left. Her actions say far more about her than about me. I always do my best to treat people, including those I disagree with, respectfully and will continue to do so."

ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 4, 0:55, Johnson, 14.63M) reported that at the restaurant, there are "signs offering appreciation on the front door, next to bouquets of flowers," while others are "outraged," with "Yelp flooded with one-star reviews [and] the restaurant's online menu hacked."

The Washington Post (6/24, Jordan, 15.68M) calls "the public shaming and shunning of political figures while they are going about their private lives" a "rising phenomenon" resulting from the "anger and division in American politics," while the Washington Times (6/24, Richardson, Boyer, 460K) calls the incident the latest example of "the escalating public hostility directed at President Trump and his aides, raising concerns among some conservatives about the potential for partisan-inspired violence."

In an op-ed for USA Today (6/24, 11.4M), Joseph R. Murray II, a civil rights attorney and administrator of LGBTTrump, a civil rights attorney and a political commentator, writes that "the idea that people would be denied service because of who they are or what they think is antithetical to a free society." Noting that Wilkerson "said her decision to deny Sanders service was due, in part, to the fact that the Red Hen employs members of the LGBT community," Murray questions how gay employees could "lobby for the ejection of Sanders" after gays have for decades "been denied service and have pleaded for tolerance." Murray argues that they "had the opportunity to be the bigger person and show that, in America, political foes can break bread rather serve up a cold dish of revenge" but they "passed on that opportunity and showed the nation that pettiness trumps principle."

***Shaub: Sanders Tweet Violated Ethics Rule.*** The Washington Times (6/24, Richardson, 460K) reports that Walter Shaub, who served as director of the Office of Government Ethics under President Obama, said Sanders "violated the Code of Federal Regulations by using her official Twitter account to respond Saturday to the flurry of media coverage." In response to Sanders' tweet, Shaub tweeted, "Sarah, I know you don't care even a tiny little bit about the ethics rules, but using your official account for this is a clear violation of 5 CFR 2635.702(a). It's the same as if an ATF agent pulled out his badge when a restaurant tried to throw him/her out."

***Waters: Administration Officials Will Be Harassed In Public.*** Breitbart (6/24, Key, 1.28M) reports that Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA) told MSNBC Saturday that members of the Trump Administration can expect to be harassed in stores, restaurants, and gas stations. Waters said, "I have no sympathy for these people that are in this Administration who know it's wrong for what they're doing on so many fronts. They tend to not

want to confront this president or even leave, but they know what they're doing is wrong. I want to tell you, these members of his cabinet who remain and try to defend him, they won't be able to go to a restaurant, they won't be able to stop at a gas station, they're not going to be able to shop at a department store. The people are going to turn on them. They're going to protest."

***Cummings: Restaurant Should Not Have Ejected Sanders.*** However, Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) took a different view of the Sanders situation. The New York Post (6/24, Schwab, 4.46M) reports that in an appearance on CBS' Face The Nation (6/24, 2.75M), Cummings "said he thought the restaurant owner was wrong for asking...Sanders to leave her eatery." Cummings said, "I think the restaurant owner should have served her. ... I really do." Cummings added that "he believed President Trump played a role in the acrimony that led up to the incident." Said Cummings, "I think President Trump has created this. ... He's basically given people license to state things that are ugly and those things then turn into actions, as we now see."

The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Board, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) argues in an editorial that the restaurant's refusal to serve Sanders, along with DHS Secretary Nielsen being heckled in a Washington restaurant and protested outside her home will be a political benefit to the President, whose voters feel that they are being marginalized. In an editorial, the Washington Post (6/24, Board, 15.68M) says that Administration officials "should be allowed to eat dinner in peace." The Post argues that while some would say "we are in a special moment justifying incivility," they "should think for a moment how many Americans might find their own special moment. How hard is it to imagine, for example, people who strongly believe that abortion is murder deciding that judges or other officials who protect abortion rights should not be able to live peaceably with their families?"

***Protesters Confront Bondi Outside Mr. Rogers Documentary.*** The AP (6/24, Sentinel) reports that Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi was confronted by protesters "at a showing of a documentary about children's TV host Fred Rogers, and they questioned the Republican's stands on immigration and health care." According to the Tampa Bay Times, Bondi was given a police escort Friday "when several

members of Organize Florida confronted her as she left a Tampa theater after seeing 'Won't You Be My Neighbor' about Mr. Rogers." The group "questioned Florida joining a lawsuit against the Affordable Care Act and Bondi's general support of President Donald Trump's immigration policies."

The New York Post (6/24, Lapin, 4.46M) reports that Whitney Ray, a spokesperson for Bondi "said the confrontation was more violent than the video posted by protesters showed." Ray said in an email, "The video they are choosing to share is of the least aggressive portion of the attack that transpired after police arrived to control the scene. What they are not sharing publicly are several previous encounters involving large men getting in the Attorney General's face, spitting and blocking her exit." The Daily Caller (6/24, Kruta, 420K) reports that Bondi said of the incident, "We were in a movie about anti-bullying and practicing peace and love and tolerance and accepting of people for their differences. That's what Mr. Rogers is all about. We all believe in free speech, but there's a big difference there."

**Flake: Senate Shouldn't Vote On Trump Judges Until There Is A Vote On Tariffs.** Breitbart (6/24, Key, 1.28M) reports that Sen. Jeff Flake told ABC's This Week (6/24, 2.72M) that senators "should stand up to President Donald Trump by not approving any more judges until they get votes on things like tariffs." Flake said, "I can tell you Republicans need to stand up on issues like tariffs. ... I do think unless we can actually exercise something other than approving the President's executive calendar, his nominees, judges that we have no reason to be there. I think myself and a number of senators at least a few of us, will stand up and say let's not move any more judges until we get a vote, for example, on tariffs."

The Washington Post (6/24, Weigel, 15.68M) says Flake has so far "supported all of the White House's key judicial nominees, but the threat of a rebellion on one of the issues that has most united conservatives behind the president drew friendly fire." In a tweet, Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ) "mocked Flake's 'hissy fit' and said he looked forward to the end of his colleague's term this year."

**Ethics Watchdogs Warn Administration Over Politicizing Presidential Coins.** The New York Times (6/24, Vogel, Subscription Publication, 19.33M)

reports that since the Clinton Administration, "commemorative medallions known as challenge coins have been stately symbols of the presidency coveted by the military, law enforcement personnel and a small circle of collectors." President Trump, however, has "yielded more – and more elaborate – coins that are shinier, flashier and even bigger." Trump's aides have commissioned "multiple versions of an official challenge coin," and one design "approved by Mr. Trump and paid for by the Republican National Committee, is thicker, wider and more gold than those of preceding presidents," and bears his campaign slogan "Make America Great Again." Amid concerns of "running afoul of rules barring government resources from being used for partisan political purposes, the White House Counsel's Office warned staff members not to display the Republican National Committee's challenge coin, or any paraphernalia with Mr. Trump's campaign slogan, in government buildings."

**Bossie Apologizes For Saying Black Panelist Is Out Of His "Cotton-Picking Mind."** Politico (6/24, Griffiths, 3.51M) reports that former Trump campaign official David Bossie has apologized for telling a Fox News panelist who is black that he was out of his "cotton-picking mind." Bossie "grew increasingly agitated during the Sunday morning segment, which included discussion of Democrats and others who have described the Trump administration's policy toward separating families that cross the border illegally as akin to Nazi actions during the Holocaust." Joel Payne, a former aide to Sen. Harry Reid, "interjected as Bossie appeared ready to list others who had made similar comparisons, causing Bossie to exclaim, 'You're out of your cotton-picking mind.'" Payne replied, "Cotton picking mind? ... Brother, let me tell you something, I've got some relatives who picked cotton."

The Washington Times (6/24, Richardson, 460K) reports that after the segment, "Fox News host Ed Henry said the phrase was 'obviously offensive.'" Later Sunday, Bossie apologized in a tweet, writing, "During a heated segment on Fox & Friends today, I should have chosen my words more carefully and never used the offensive phrase that I did. I apologize to Joel Payne, Fox News and its viewers."

USA Today (6/24, Hayes, 11.4M) reports that Fox News issued a statement "saying Bossie's comments were 'deeply offensive and wholly inappropriate.'" The statement added, "His remarks do not reflect the sentiments of Fox News and we do not in any way condone them." The Washington Post (6/24, Selk, 15.68M) says Fox News "declined to comment" when asked "whether Bossie would continue to be invited onto the show."

**Bill Clinton Downplays Tarmac Meeting With Lynch.** The Washington Times (6/24, Scarborough, 460K) reports that former President Bill Clinton told investigators told investigators that he saw nothing wrong with his impromptu meeting with former Attorney General Loretta Lynch on a Phoenix airport tarmac because he did not think the investigation into his wife Hillary Clinton's emails "amounted to much, frankly." The June 27, 2016 meeting, which is "captured in Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz's 500-plus-page report on the Clinton email saga," is "one of the moments most talked about. Some Republicans said the two-term president, by his mere presence, tried to influence the criminal investigation as Mrs. Clinton was running for president." for her part, Lynch "told investigators that she thought the meeting would be no more than a greeting. But Mr. Clinton made himself at home and regaled her and her husband in small talk, she told the Justice Department investigators." Clinton "said his motive was innocent."

**Wolfe-Watkins Affair Has "Rattled" Washington Journalists.** The New York Times (6/24, Grynbaum, Shane, Flitter, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports that a three-year affair which began in 2014 between Ali Watkins, then, an intern in the Washington bureau of McClatchy Newspapers, and James Wolfe, "a 50-something senior aide to the Senate Intelligence Committee," is "now part of a federal investigation that has rattled the world of Washington journalists and the sources they rely on." Wolfe "was arrested on June 7 and charged with lying to investigators about his contacts with Ms. Watkins and three other journalists," and Watkins, now a reporter for The New York Times, "had her email and phone records seized by federal prosecutors." The seizure "was alarming to First Amendment advocates," who said that with

"no allegation that classified information was disclosed...such a rare and aggressive tactic was unjustified and could undermine journalists' ability to report on government misconduct."

**Barr Says Her Controversial Tweet Was "Misinterpreted."** ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 9, 1:50, Reshef, 14.63M) reported that in "a taped podcast with her spiritual leader," Roseanne Barr claims that the controversial tweets which resulted in the cancellation of her ABC show were "misinterpreted." Barr: "I never would have wittingly called any black person, say they are a monkey. I wouldn't do that. And I didn't do that. And if people think that I did that, it just kills me." ABC added that Barr was "overcome with emotion." Barr: "I definitely feel remorse. I am so sorry, and humiliated, and angry at myself."

**Boardroom Table From "The Apprentice" Sold At Auction For \$32,000.** The Washington Times (6/24, Harper, 460K) reports that a boardroom table President Trump used as the star of NBC's *The Apprentice* was "sold at auction for \$32,000" Saturday. Officials at Julien's Auctions "originally predicted the table would fetch around \$16,000."

**Raju: Trump Drives Up Democrats' Negatives, But Fires Up Democratic Voters.** Senior congressional correspondent Manu Raju said on CNN's Inside Politics (6/24, 681K), "Trump has told Republican leaders he is willing to go everywhere. And the question is do they want him everywhere? They know that one thing he does effectively is he drives up the negatives of a Democratic opponent. He is very good at that. But, he also riles up the Democratic base. It is going to be an interesting calculation come the fall as we get into the heat of the general election where middle of the road voters, people may be put off by some of the Trump rhetoric and policies."

**Romney Says He'll Back Good Trump Policies, Criticize Bad Ones.** The AP (6/24, Whitehurst) reports that Utah US Senate candidate Mitt Romney's primary opponent has "painted him as an outsider who can't get along with President Donald Trump, but Romney has quieted his once-strident criticism." Romney told the AP, "I'm not someone who's going to be a



daily commentator on everything the President says by any means, but if there's something of significance that the President says or does, I feel a moral obligation to express my own view." The AP says that while Romney predicted that Trump would be re-elected in 2020, he "hasn't endorsed him" and he "declined to do so this week, saying it's too early and he expects Trump to have an as-yet-unknown" primary challenger. Nonetheless, "Romney's tone has changed considerably since the 2016 campaign when he called then-candidate Trump a 'phony' and a 'fraud.'" Romney said that "things change after a president is elected," and that "he'll get behind good policies while criticizing bad ones."

### **Donovan Says NY11 Primary Battle With Grimm Has "Gotten Personal."**

The New York Times (6/24, Goldmacher, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports that the NY11 primary battle between incumbent Rep. Dan Donovan (R-NY), who has been endorsed by President Trump, and ex-Rep. Michael Grimm "has revolved around Mr. Trump, and which Republican candidate can best carry his mantle in this, the lone Republican-held seat left in New York City." Trump has warned that a Grimm win "could hand the seat to Democrats come November," but Grimm's supporters "choose to look past Mr. Trump's endorsement, to forgive Mr. Grimm's criminal conviction, and pay even less heed to his more moderate record in Congress." They see "a candidate who talks like them and fights for them, just like a certain resident of the White House." Said one Grimm supporters, "Michael Grimm was a Trump before Trump was a Trump." The Times adds that Donovan's and Grimm's "feelings for one another are not masked." Said Donovan, "It's gotten personal."

### **Michigan Democrats Fear Thanedar Is A "Bizarro-World Trump."**

Politico Magazine (6/24, Friess, 3.45M) profiles Michigan gubernatorial candidate Shri Thanedar, calling him "the state's hottest Democrat." Thanedar, "a 63-year-old millionaire chemist and entrepreneur," was "utterly unknown" when he launched his campaign, and on "that blank canvas, he's spent \$3 million and counting in TV ads to paint an image as a [Sen. Bernie] Sanders acolyte with big 'progressive' ideas who disarms skeptics of his accent (Thanedar is an Indian immigrant) and his non-European name with endearing, self-effacing

jokes." However, "many Democrats" are "anxious, angry and downright hostile" to his candidacy. Many in the state see his "explosive burst onto the political scene [as] a partisan mirror image of the trajectory of another oddly coiffed, thick-accented businessman-turned-politician," and like President Trump. "Democrats here question what Shri Thanedar really believes" and fear their party is "about to be rocked by their own Bizarro-World Trump."

### **Maryland Gubernatorial Race A Test Of Sanders Backers' Ability To Win Primaries.**

The New York Times (6/24, Ember, Burns, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) reports that Maryland's Democratic gubernatorial primary, in which Sen. Bernie Sanders has endorsed and campaigned for Ben Jealous, has "become a critical test of Mr. Sanders's ability to sway elections." Sanders' "policy agenda has caught on widely among Democratic candidates, and succeeded in moving the party to the left," but "Sanders himself has struggled so far to expand his political base and propel his personal allies to victory in Democratic primaries." Sanders "has endorsed only a handful of candidates in contested primaries, and three of them have recently lost difficult races in Iowa and Pennsylvania."

The Washington Post (6/22, Chason, 15.68M) reports that recent polls show that Jealous and Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker III are the frontrunners in the race. They are trailed by "state Sen. Richard S. Madaleno Jr., who was the first openly gay person elected to the Maryland General Assembly; former Obama appointee Krishanti Vignarajah, a Sri Lankan immigrant; attorney James Shea and tech entrepreneur Alex Ross."

### **District Of Columbia Council To Consider Lowering Voting Age To 16.**

NBC Nightly News (6/24, story 9, 2:00, Snow, 8.26M) reported that a city council hearing is set for this week on a push to extend the right to vote to 16-year-olds in the District of Columbia. NBC (Radford) added that the group Vote16USA is pushing "to lower the voting age to 16, just in time for the next presidential election."

<b>WPost:</b>	<b>Congress</b>	<b>Must</b>	<b>Devise</b>
<b>Permanent</b>	<b>Fix</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>FHFA's</b>
<b>"Temporary"</b>	<b>Housing</b>		<b>Finance</b>



**Takeover.** A Washington Post (6/24, 15.68M) editorial calls on Congress to come up with a permanent fix to the FHFA's "temporary" takeover of the housing finance system. The Post says that "buried deep within the Trump administration's new plan to reorganize government agencies," was a proposal that "would end the conservatorship of Fannie and Freddie and replace their duopoly with a system in which an array of entities could participate, subject to strict federal regulation of capitalization and underwriting standards."

**White: Kagan, Kennedy Opinions Should Encourage Reform Of Administrative State.** In an op-ed for the Wall Street Journal (6/24, White, Subscription Publication, 6.13M), Adam J. White, a research fellow at the Hoover Institution and director of the C. Boyden Gray Center for the Study of the Administrative State at George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School, writes that Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan's majority opinion in *Lucia v. SEC* and Justice Anthony Kennedy's concurring opinion in *Pereira v. Sessions* show the need for the reform and modernization of the administrative state.

**Gramm, Ekelund: Income Inequality Helped Elect Trump.** In an op-ed for the Wall Street Journal (6/24, Gramm, Ekelund, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) adapted from their forthcoming book "Freedom and Inequality," former Senate Banking Chairman Phil Gramm, and Robert Ekelund, a professor emeritus in economics at Auburn University, argue that while talk of income inequality was a major theme of Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign, an analysis by the Cato Institute's John F. Early, found relative equality among the bottom 60% of American earners, due in part to social-welfare spending and economic and wage stagnation during the Obama Administration. As a result, middle-income and lower-middle-income families saw that their hard work left them barely better off than those benefiting from welfare spending. That recognition, they argue, helped elect President Trump.

## **EDITORIAL WRAP-UP**

**New York Times.** *"It's Time To Integrate New York's Best Schools."* In an editorial, the

New York Times (6/24, Subscription Publication, 19.33M) says New York City's "school system is not only the nation's largest but also its most segregated." Mayor Bill de Blasio "largely ignored this reality for four years," the Times says, but he "has now taken an important step: He has put forward a plan to integrate eight of the city's specialized high schools, storied institutions like Stuyvesant, Bronx Science and Brooklyn Tech." The Times says these schools "have a vital mission, to challenge the city's sharpest young minds," but they have been "failing in that endeavor, because they all but shut out black and Latino students, leaving untold numbers of New York's brightest children behind."

**Washington Post.** *"Congress Needs To Come Up With A Permanent Fix For Its 'Temporary' Housing-Finance Takeover."* A Washington Post (6/24, 15.68M) editorial calls on Congress to come up with a permanent fix to the FHFA's "temporary" takeover of the housing finance system. The Post says that "buried deep within the Trump administration's new plan to reorganize government agencies" was a proposal that "would end the conservatorship of Fannie and Freddie and replace their duopoly with a system in which an array of entities could participate, subject to strict federal regulation of capitalization and underwriting standards."

*"Trump Is Playing A Risky Game Of Chicken."* A Washington Post (6/24, 15.68M) editorial takes a negative view of President Trump's trade conflict with China. The Post argues that Trump "is unable to set priorities. Instead of focusing on China, the country with which we and many other nations have the most legitimate grievances, Mr. Trump is simultaneously pursuing trade battles with every major U.S. ally." Trump "not only has decided to play a game of chicken with the U.S. economy. He has decided to play against the whole world."

*"Let The Trump Team Eat In Peace."* Citing a Virginia restaurant owner's decision to ask White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders to leave her restaurant, the Washington Post (6/24, Board, 15.68M) says in an editorial that Administration officials "should be allowed to eat dinner in peace." The Post argues that while some would say "we are in a special moment justifying incivility," they "should think for a moment how many Americans might find their own special moment. How hard is it to imagine, for example, people who strongly believe that abortion is

murder deciding that judges or other officials who protect abortion rights should not be able to live peaceably with their families?"

**Wall Street Journal.** *"Senate Obstruction In Profile."* A Wall Street Journal (6/24, Board, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) editorial criticizes Senate Democrats' treatment of Brian Benczkowski, President Trump's nominee to head the Justice Department's Criminal Division. The Journal argues that Benczkowski is highly qualified for the position and takes issue with Democrats' claims that he has "Russia connections."

*"How To Re-Elect Trump."* The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Board, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) argues in an editorial that a Virginia restaurant's refusal to serve White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders last weekend, along with DHS Secretary Nielsen being heckled in a Washington restaurant and protested outside her home will be a political benefit to the President, whose voters feel that they are being marginalized.

*"Turkey's Authoritarian Choice."* The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) editorializes that even though the outcome of Sunday's vote in Turkey grants President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan vast new authority to expand his increasingly authoritarian rule, the vote revealed a reenergized democratic opposition, underscoring how many voters are unhappy with the slow economic growth, capital flight, and rising inflation under Erdoğan's leadership. Still, the Journal warns, Erdoğan will likely become an even more difficult NATO partner, in part because the Administration has neglected Turkey in its focus on North Korea, Russia, and Iran.

## **THE BIG PICTURE**

### **Headlines From Today's Front Pages.**

#### **WALL STREET JOURNAL:**

Trump Plans New Curbs On Chinese Investment, Tech Exports To China  
Erdogan Extends His Hold In Turkey In Pivotal Election Win  
Amid Chaos At Border, Some Immigrant Families Reunite  
Short Of Workers, Restaurants Turn To Robots

#### **NEW YORK TIMES:**

Erdogan's Election Win Gives Him Vastly Expanded Powers In Turkey  
Trump Calls For Depriving Immigrants Who Illegally Cross Border Of Due Process Rights  
How An Affair Between A Reporter And A Security Aide Has Rattled Washington Media  
In A High-Stakes Environmental Whodunit, Many Clues Point To China  
Trump's Trade War Could Shut Cheesemakers Out Of Foreign Markets  
Bernie Sanders Is Winning Converts. But Primary Victories Remain Elusive.

#### **WASHINGTON POST:**

With More Floods, Fear Also Flows  
Separated Families Feel Terror Of The Unknown  
Trump Opposes Trials For Migrants  
Now On The Menu: Dinner With A Side Of Shaming  
If NATO, Russia Clash, U.S. May Stall In Traffic

#### **FINANCIAL TIMES:**

Erdogan Claims Victory In Turkey Elections  
China Cuts Bank Reserves By \$100BN To Cushion US Tariffs  
Italy Disrupts 'Summit To Save Merkel' On Migration

#### **WASHINGTON TIMES:**

Is Violence Next? Some Democrats Encourage Aggressive Public Confrontations Against Trump, Aides  
Mother, Crying Child In Iconic Photo Have Family Back Home And No Basis To Claim Asylum  
Bill Clinton Says Tarmac Meeting With Lynch A Week Before Wife's FBI Interview Was Innocent  
Pentagon Can't Work At Warp Speed To Build Trump's 'Space Force'  
Chelsea Manning's Senate Campaign In Maryland Falters Toward End  
Front-Runner For Mexican President A Known Name But An Uncertain Leftist Leader

#### **STORY LINEUP FROM LAST NIGHT'S NETWORK NEWS:**

**ABC:** Wildfires; Severe Storms; Immigration-Trump Comments; Sarah Sanders-Restaurant Ousting-Reactions; Trump-Republicans-Immigration Bill; Immigration-Reuniting Families; Pittsburgh-Police Fatally Shoot Unarmed Teen-Protests; San Diego-Police Officers Shot; Roseanne Barr-Racist Tweet-Remorse; San Francisco-Woman Calls Cops On 8 Year Old Girl;